

**River of Life Fellowship**

**Pastor Rick Carlson**

**January 11, 2023 (Week #2)**

Last week, I left you with my position on the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit in the timeframe of the New Testament Church's beginnings through history to present. I did that to bring clarification and understanding to why some people have a problem with the continuing full gospel ministry and why the Scriptures don't support that theory. They just simply don't. Moving forward, we do see clearly in the Words of Jesus Himself that the Holy Spirit is now dwelling with and infilling every believer!

***“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper that He may abide with you forever, the Spirit of truth whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.” John 14:16,17***

• **The Holy Spirit In the New Testament**

**Objective:** To gain knowledge and understanding of the Word of God in the area of the operations of the Holy Spirit and what the Gifts of the Spirit are and how they are used in our lives. The Gifts of the Spirit often operate together. I separate them in order to define them.

Main Scripture to study from: **I Corinthians 12:1-32**

- **Identifying the 9 Gifts of the Spirit**

- Three Revelation Gifts = they \_\_\_\_\_ something.

- 1) word of wisdom                      2) word of knowledge
- 3) discerning of spirits

- Three Power Gifts = they \_\_\_\_\_ something

- 1) gift of faith                              2) working of miracles
- 3) gifts of healings

- Three Utterance Gifts = they \_\_\_\_\_ something

- 1) Prophecy                                      2) Divers Kinds of Tongues
- 3) Interpretation of Tongues

### **- Gift of the Word of Wisdom**

Man's Definition of Wisdom = the ability to foresee and have discernment using a keenly focused perception in order to deal with the issues of life.

**Biblical Definition:** Supernatural Revelation by the \_\_\_\_\_ of God concerning the divine \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in the mind and will of God.

: This is not the full \_\_\_\_\_ of God. But a wisdom that comes through reading God's Word, knowing Jesus Christ in a deeper way while having learned to listen to the Holy Spirit and bearing witness with Him to be led in prayer.

: The Gift of the Word of Wisdom is not wisdom in the daily \_\_\_\_\_ of life. That is what we will call \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom. **Joshua 1:8**

: The Holy Spirit gives \_\_\_\_\_ to the believer, as the understanding for application from principles found in the Word of God and the heart of God. The mind and spirit of man is opened by the Holy Spirit to \_\_\_\_\_ this Gift as God deems necessary to share. Sometimes the believer will actually pray out the Gift of the Word of Wisdom when praying with the Spirit and with understanding.

: The Gift of the Word of Wisdom predominantly speaks to something in the \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus informed us that the Holy Spirit will tell us things to come. **John 16:13-15**

: **Acts 27:23,24 Paul** : **Genesis 6:13-18 Noah** = Here is a situation in which the Word of Wisdom was not directly from the Word of God, but Paul had learned how to listen because of the teachings and principles of how God operates. Noah didn't have a Bible and had to be taught to know the leading of the Spirit of God.

### **- The Gift of the Word of Knowledge**

Man's Definition of Knowledge = Familiarity gained by actual experience; practical skill; acquaintance with facts having information of facts.

**Biblical Definition:** The Gift of the Word of Knowledge extends from a \_\_\_\_\_ revelation by the Holy Spirit of certain \_\_\_\_\_ in the mind of God of things that happened in the \_\_\_\_\_ and / or may be happening in the \_\_\_\_\_.

The Gift of the Word of Knowledge is not naturally \_\_\_\_\_ knowledge through the course of life's experiences or in man's educational systems.

: This Gift is not the \_\_\_\_\_ and total knowledge of God. But knowledge obtained through reading / hearing the Word of God the believer comes to a deeper knowledge of and with Jesus Christ and becomes comfortable in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Through praying the Word, God opens up our \_\_\_\_\_ of a Word of Knowledge as defined. Acts 9:10-17

**NOTE:** The word of wisdom vs word of knowledge = the revelation that the word of knowledge usually brings is \_\_\_\_\_ tense or concerning something that happened in the \_\_\_\_\_.

Examples: = Old Testament II Kings 5:21-24      New Testament Acts 5:1-4

**Interesting Fact about these first 2 Gifts:** God is all knowing and has all wisdom (part of His omniscience). In these Gifts, He does not necessarily reveal everything. Both the Word of Wisdom and the Word of Knowledge reveal “A word or a fragmentary part of what God wants the believer to know”. He does not impart all of His wisdom or knowledge of any Gift, for that matter, all at once. Rather, just what He wants us to know at that moment in time. Both Gifts apply to people, places and things.

: Example of both Gifts working together when Pastor Rick was presented with a demon possessed young lady that came into River of Life in the early years. (Hare Krishna)

: Jesus said “This only comes out only by prayer and fasting.” I had read it many times in Matt. 17:21, and it was available in my heart for the Holy Spirit to bring to my attention.

### - Discerning of Spirits

Biblical Definition of Discern = means to see with the eye of the mind, or the spiritual eye of the believer; insightfully detecting, separating, distinguishing, and discriminating certain situations, distinctions and similarities that the Holy Spirit wants the believer to focus on.

**Definition of the Gift:** The Gift of Discerning of spirits gives the Spirit-filled believer \_\_\_\_\_ insight into the entire realm of spirits to see activity by demonic spirits, what type of spirit is working behind the scenes of something, and even when the Holy Spirit is working. This Gift discerns into the spiritual realm as defined above. It is limited to the realm or class of \_\_\_\_\_. However, it is the full class or spectrum of spirits including bad spirits, good spirits, and even \_\_\_\_\_ spirits.

**NOTE:** Sometimes to know what something is, it helps to know what it is not.

The Gift of Discerning of spirits is not \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ reading, nor is it the power to “discern” the mere \_\_\_\_\_ of others. It must be understood that discerning of spirits is not limited to discerning evil spirits.

Discerning a spirit is not to be confused with discerning a work of the \_\_\_\_\_ as per Galatians 5:19-21. The works of the flesh are \_\_\_\_\_ and cannot be mistaken.

However, the Holy Spirit will use the discerning of spirits to reveal to the believer the type of demonic spirit involved behind the works, or involved in a situation.

: Example of this Gift in operation : **Acts 16:16-18** Here Paul saw a mocking spirit working with a spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ in a young girl. It spoke through the girl and mockingly revealed the message they were speaking. Paul wasn't having it!

: More revelation from Pastor's early intervention with a demon. **I John 4:1-4**

The Spirit of God uses this Gift to reveal His very own Presence, dealings and when He is in operation. **Acts 8:18-24**

You'll be glad to also know that The Inward Witness can be our \_\_\_\_\_ with limitations up to this Gift of Discerning of spirits. If we know the Word, and are walking in the Spirit, we will have that "inward witness" if someone is operating by a wrong spirit. This takes a \_\_\_\_\_ in the spiritual realm and is detected in our spirit as we bear witness (Romans 8:14-17) with the Holy Spirit. We will not know what class or spectrum of spirit we are discerning, but only that there is something wrong.