



Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Feb 26, 2023
Pastor Max Lucado

Title: Eagerly Desire The Gifts of the Spirit

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8 NKJV).

The Holy Spirit is the ultimate gift giver.

- A. Not all gifts are given at the moment of conversion.
- B. Spiritual gifts are exactly that, gifts.
- C. Spiritual gifts are not an index of spiritual maturity.
- D. Natural talents and spiritual gifts are not always identical.
- E. Spiritual gifts exist to exalt Christ, edify the church, and bless the needy.
- F. **The discerning gifts:** *“To one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge...to another discerning of spirits” (vs. 8,10 NKJV).*
 - a. word of wisdom
 - b. word of knowledge
 - c. the discerning of spirits.

G. **The dynamic gifts:** *“To another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles”* (1 Cor.12:9-10 NIV).

- a. gift of faith
- b. Gifts of healing
- c. working of miracles.

H. **The declarative gifts:** *“To another prophecy...to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues”* (1 Cor. 12:10 NIV).

- a. Prophecy
- b. Speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues

“One who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, he utters mysteries in the Spirit” (1 Cor.14:2 ESV).

“The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit” (John 3:8 ESV)

Discussion Questions:

What is your personal history with spiritual gifts? What experiences or words come to mind: desire or avoid, chaos or order, public or personal

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 & Romans 12:4-8 as a group. How have these passages enriched or changed your view of spiritual gifts?

Have you had an opportunity to practice your spiritual gifting? If so, in what setting (work, church, public, etc.), and what was that experience like? If you are unsure of your spiritual gifts, take some time to reflect – alone or together – on what your gifts might be. (Use 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 & Romans 12:4-8 to guide your reflection.)

Historically, churches have fallen into one of two camps regarding the ***specific*** gifts of ***healing, miracles, prophecy, and tongues***. One camp is **Cessationism** (gifts have

ceased and no longer exist for today's church), and the other camp is **Continuationism** (these gifts **continue** and are still in use today). As you may imagine, this has been a polarizing topic in the Church. How can we pursue unity with Christians from diverse backgrounds rather than allowing our differences to divide us?

Pastor Max Lucado made a point that spiritual gifts exist to exalt Christ, edify the church, and bless the needy. In what ways could we (as individuals and as a group) use our gifts to serve those around us? How can we support and encourage each other's next steps?