

## Term 2 – Equipped by God for the Journey

### Lesson 11

#### Gifts of the Spirit: Part 3

We continue our study of the nine gifts of the Spirit identified in **1 Corinthians 12:8-10** *“For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.”* Remember that these gifts are given by the Spirit to build and profit the whole church. The gifts are given at the sole discretion of the Lord. They are not a reward to individual believers but a necessity for building the church. These gifts come with great responsibility to those who receive them.

#### Gift of Faith

As we have learned in previous lessons, there are three specific mentions of the Lord giving faith to man. It is important to understand that all the types of faith are given to us by God and they are not our own natural being or ability.

The first is the measure of faith that is given to all mankind by the Father. It is part of how He created us so that that we would be able to respond to the Spirit and believe on Jesus. **Romans 12:3** *“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith”.*

The second faith is a fruit of the Spirit which is given by Jesus through the indwelling Spirit of Jesus Christ to all those who are born again of His Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-23** *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”* This faith is the evidence of Christ in us to others and is the ability to believe on and see all things through the Word of God rather than natural circumstances.

The third type of faith is the gift of faith that is given by the Holy Ghost. This is the faith that we are studying in this lesson. The gift of faith is an “unwavering faith” in the Word of God. It is given to those who are called to lead and to encourage the faith of all believers, despite great obstacles to the church and to individuals. Those who are given one of the ministries of the Spirit identified in Ephesians 4:11 will surely receive the gift of faith. Such faith will be necessary to complete the work of that ministry as there will be great challenges of the enemy (Satan) to try to stop the ministries of the Lord from being successful. The gift of faith is also needed by the pillars that the Lord has set in place to uphold the body of Christ. They will face challenges individually and for the whole body of Christ, His church. Challenges will come from within and from outside of the body. Regardless of the challenge, the only way through it will be with an unwavering commitment to the Word of God.

**Hebrews 3:7-14** *“Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end;”*

**1 Peter 5:8-9** *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.”*

**2 Timothy 1:6-14** *“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel: Whereunto I am appointed a preacher, and an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles. For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.”*

The gift of faith operates in us by the Holy Ghost. It is the fulfilment of the Words of Jesus in John concerning the Holy Ghost. Faith is not a concept or in an individual but it is in the Word of God. The gift of faith will always bring forth the Word of God and it will lead believers to further understanding and strength in the Word. Through this gift, Godly vision is given to see beyond our natural circumstances and it allows us to see the way and end of a thing through the Word of God. **John 14:26** *“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”* **John 16:13-15** *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”*

We remember that Jesus spoke to His disciples about leading the church into obedience to the commandments of God (abiding in Him). This demonstrates the mutual love between God and us and is a condition for receiving the Holy Ghost which is the Father and Son abiding in us. **John 14:15-16** *“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;”*

**John 14:23** *“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.”*

It is an awesome and most challenging thing to encourage and lead the church body in the ways of truth of the Lord and unto the fullness of the Godhead. This is the incredible work and responsibility of the gift of faith. **Romans 15:1** *“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.”*

## Gifts of Healing

Healing is spoken of throughout the Bible and we see many different examples of God’s healing. God’s healing is not only for physical ailments of an individual but it is also for spiritual healing of the heart and soul of man and for entire nations. His healing can cast out demons for those who are possessed of evil spirits. His healing can open the eyes and ears of those who were not physically blind or deaf but live in the bondage of not being able to see or hear God. **1Corinthians 12:9** does not state that it is the “gift of healing” but rather “gifts of healing”.

There are many aspects of God’s healing for the world and there are different types of healing gifts that the Spirit may give to individuals. Some will move in physical healing, others in emotional or inner healing. Some will move in deliverance of demon possession. Others will move in spiritual healing by opening up God’s plan through the gospel. In all cases, healing is for a witness of Jesus Christ. It is to break the bondage or brokenness that prevents someone from being reconciled to the heavenly Father as a son or daughter of God. We also see that the gifts of healing can lead to someone finding God’s forgiveness. **Luke 5:18-26** *“And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts? Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.”*

God’s call for healing is unmistakable in His Word. Forgiveness and healing are intimately connected. Together, they are so necessary for mankind. **2 Chronicles 7:14-16** *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place. For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.”*

**Luke 4:18-21** *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.”*

**Matthew 4:23-24** *“And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.”*

**Matthew 10:5-8** *“These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.”*

**Mark 16:15-18** *“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”*

**Acts 5:12-16** *“And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.”*

These scriptures show us the fullness of the gifts of healing given by the Spirit. The gifts of healing are more than just physical healing. Devils are cast out. The gospel is preached. We see the healing or restoration of “faith”, not only for those who were healed but to all those around who observed. We must be ever mindful that the true gifts of healing are not for this life only. They are for the healing of souls for all eternity in the Kingdom of Heaven. **1 Corinthians 15:19** *“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.”*

**DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS**

SCRIPTURES	QUESTIONS
<p><b>Acts 3:1-11 Healing as a Witness</b></p> <p>(1) “Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.                      (2) And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;                      (3) Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.                      (4) And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.                      (5) And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.                      (6) Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.                      (7) And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ancle bones received strength.                      (8) And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.                      (9) And all the people saw him walking and praising God:                      (10) And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.                      (11) And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.”</p>	<p>1. In Acts 3:1-11, how many things can you identify in this situation that were accomplished by Peter and John through the operation of the gifts of healing?</p>

**Acts 3:12-21 The Gospel is Preached**

*(12) “And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?  
(13) The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.  
(14) But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;  
(15) And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.  
(16) And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.  
(17) And now, brethren, I wot that through ignorance ye did it, as did also your rulers.  
(18) But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled.  
(19) Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;  
(20) And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you:  
(21) Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.”*

2. In Acts 3:12-21, how many things can you identify in this situation that were accomplished by Peter and John through the operation of the gifts of healing?

We encourage you to read through the rest of Acts 3.