



I hope you are enjoying your monthly Prophetic Edge teaching as much as I am enjoying sharing with you and communicating with you on a regular basis. My purpose for the Prophetic Edge is to empower and propel you in the use of your spiritual gifts. Please let us know if you would like more information concerning our teaching resources or Spirit Ministries Training Centre which is our practical ministry Bible School where we offer full-time and part-time courses for individuals who are seeking a diploma. Courses are held both day and evening in Hamilton, Ontario and are also available on line with video streaming and interactive teacher-student involvement. Check out SMTC at [www.spiritministries.ca](http://www.spiritministries.ca). Each summer at The Eagle Worldwide Retreat and Revival Centre in Copetown, ON, we hold a ten day intensive advanced School of the Prophets, where a number of prominent international prophetic voices are available for personalized instruction during Summer Camp. This year during Summer Camp, we will also be holding a leadership conference, as well as couples' and women in ministry weekend conferences. Accommodations are available on the camp and also through hotels and motels in the area. In the summer, as well, we also have The Elisha Project, which provides radical prophetic mentoring and discipleship and hands-on practical ministry exposure and experience. We have a leadership training as well as two other four week sessions between July 1<sup>st</sup> and Labour Day. If you would be interested in any of these training and mentoring opportunities, you can email us at [info@eagleworldwide.com](mailto:info@eagleworldwide.com).

### Gifts of the Spirit

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you be ignorant.” That’s what the Apostle Paul said in 1 Cor 12:1, as he opens up his teaching on spiritual gifts. He concludes his teaching in 1 Cor 14:40 with “Let all things be done decently and in order.” I believe that it was by divine design that Holy Spirit chose the Apostle Paul to bring this very important teaching to the church because Paul had a real personal understanding of the application and operation of spiritual gifts as he went out and evangelized and birthed churches, particularly among the Gentiles. Let us just review a few of the key statements that he made.

First, he doesn’t want us to be ignorant, so obviously, he wants us to be knowledgeable and have understanding. The Lord chose Paul because he wanted him to impart practical understanding. He said in verse four in chapter 12, there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. He goes on in verses 8-10, to list the nine signature gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are ministry gifts that include prophesy, word of knowledge, word of wisdom, healing, working of miracles, discernment of spirits, the gift of tongues and interpretation of tongues, along with the gift of faith. In all of chapter 13, he spoke about one of the most powerful of all gifts, which is love and told us that without love, these gifts would have an empty sound.

Most of us have experienced the gifts in operation without love, and there is an emptiness, a hollowness, a hardness that is obvious and makes it difficult to receive. He said that there are different administrations but the same Lord in chapter 12, verse 5, and I believe that He is letting the user of the gifts understand that when you go from fellowship to fellowship in different settings, there is different administration and spiritual oversight that requires relationship and recognition with authority, understanding of the local protocol of the house. This ensures that we will not be disruptive using the gifts, but we will blend and be supportive of one another. Consequently, we will be doing all things decently and in order.

He tells us in verse 6, that there are a diversity of operations but the same God. Here Paul is telling us that under the anointing and the unction of the Holy Spirit, each of us is able to flow individually and uniquely. I believe our God is a God of individuality who anoints us personally, not a cookie-cutter God, but a God of creativity who wants us to be ourselves, not having to emulate someone else. Just be yourself.

If you have a desire to operate in the gifts and know that you are called to minister in the Spirit, you need to read an easily understandable version of the Bible from 1 Cor 12:1 through 1 Cor 14:40. Below is a list of many of the spiritual gifts with a brief and simple definition that I have broken down into four categories: five-fold office gifts, the nine signature gifts of the Spirit, ministry gifts, and special gifts to the body. Read through and try to identify those that you feel God has activated in your life “because concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, He would not have us to be ignorant.”

May the Lord richly bless you and stir within you afresh the gifts and the power of His Spirit, and may there be an impartation and an understanding that will allow you to demonstrate and manifest His love.

*Brother Russ Moyer*

## **GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT**

### **1. FIVE-FOLD OFFICE GIFTS**

**Ephesians. 4:11-12** “*And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*”

#### **a) Apostle**

The office gift of Apostle is when God gives special ability and talent to a certain individual in the body of Christ to assume and exercise general leadership over a number of churches, ministries or a denomination. This is one of the foundational gifts described in Ephesians 2:20. Many times this individual is given power and authority to plant, establish and build churches and generally oversee works and other leaders, for example, a pastor to pastors.

**b) Prophet**

This office gift is also under the foundational ministries for building, directing, and developing churches and leaders. This individual, many times would have an extraordinarily powerful gift of Prophecy and people would sense a divinely anointed utterance and confirmation to the prophetic words that are spoken. They are gifted to receive and communicate the word, message and direction of the Lord to the body. Many times will be called upon to raise up other prophetic voices and will teach and preach with great revelation knowledge and insight from the Word of God.

**c) Evangelist**

All of us in the body are called to win souls, but this is an individual that holds an office in the church and has an extraordinary hunger for souls. Most times this individual will be involved in developing outreach programs that help others to participate in soul-winning endeavors. They will have a great passion to preach God's Word of salvation. Most times will themselves have a great fear of the Lord and the anointing on their lives will draw people in large numbers, to hear the truth proclaimed publicly and privately.

**d) Teacher**

The gift of teaching is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the body and its members in such a way that others will learn. This individual will be apt to teach.

**e) Pastor**

The gift of the Pastor is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers. This individual will clearly have the heart of a Shepherd. They will care for the people the Lord has given them in a very personal way. Many times getting involved in their spiritual growth, counseling, bringing guidance, comfort and strength in times of personal hardship, exhorting them in their personal life to reach their God-given goals and utilize their gifts.

In larger church settings, the pastor will develop a care team to work with individuals, some of their duties will include home and hospital visitation, organizing and structuring church services and programs at the local church levels.

**2. CHURCH LEADERSHIP GIFTS**

In the biblical structure for church given to us by the apostle Paul, he spoke specifically of these 3 leadership categories; Bishop, Deacon and Elder.

**BISHOP – 1 Timothy 3:1-7**

The office of the Bishop is described as a spiritual overseer of one or more churches or ministries. Many times a Bishop will not only oversee and pastor the pastors, but also will preside over special services and events relating to the spiritual network that he or she oversees. Many times in a network of ministries, the Bishop will sit on the presbyter board that certifies, credentials or ordains ministers.

## **DEACONS**

Paul described the office of the deacon in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 which mainly talks about the character qualities of a deacon. In Acts 6, the apostles selected 7 deacons which included Stephen and Philip to do the daily ministry work. This position is many times a practical ministry experience. They spoke of serving, waiting on tables, meeting the needs of widows. Shortly thereafter in Acts 7, we see where Stephen went out and began to preach, confronted spiritual leaders at that time and ultimately became the first Christian martyr. In Acts 8, Philip began to evangelize, bringing a great move of the spirit to the city of Samaria, moving in signs, wonders and miracles and preaching with great power. Deacons may also participate in baptism as Philip did to the Ethiopian leader. In Acts 21, the same Philip, along with his 4 daughters who were prophetic, hosted Paul and his entire company in Caesarea, utilizing his gift of hospitality.

## **ELDERS**

Paul described elders in 1 Timothy 5:17-22. Some of them will be five-fold ministers, some will have rule and authority over others, some will labor in the word and in doctrine. Paul also tells us that elders are laborers worthy of their reward and should not be accused lightly and without multiple confirmations.

Peter, in 1 Peter, addressed this chapter to the elders and considered himself an elder. He exhorted them to feed the flock, to provide oversight, to be Christian examples and shepherds in submission to the Chief Shepherd.

### **3. 9 SIGNATURE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Ministry Gifts)**

These gifts are outlined in Paul's teaching beginning in 1 Corinthians 12:1 where he states "Now concerning spiritual gifts brethren, I would not have you be ignorant...." and he completes his teaching on the gifts and their operation in 1 Corinthians 14:31, where he exhorts us to utilize these gifts decently and in order. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are available to all believers to be used for the edification of the body, not restricted in any way to those who hold the leadership role or office.

#### **A. RELEVATORY GIFTS**

##### **f) Gift of Prophecy**

The gift of prophecy is when God drops a message into the heart of an individual, allowing him to receive and communicate this message to others individually or to the body of Christ at large, at times over cities or nations. Not everyone who has the gift of prophecy is in the Office of the Prophet, however, every Prophet will have a very special gift of Prophecy. The New Testament model of prophecy is in 1 Corinthians 14:3, where the gift is to be used to exhort, encourage and edify.

##### **g) Word of Knowledge**

This gift is when God sovereignly drops into the spirit of a believer a word of knowledge or information, not previously known to the individual in the natural, that will allow them to bring counsel, direction, or divine insight that will have a special effect on

the person receiving that information. An example is when the Lord ministered to the woman at the well about her personal relationships, brought her to repentance and the acknowledgement that He was from God.

#### **h) Word of Wisdom**

This gift is when God sovereignly drops into the spirit of a believer divine wisdom that will help them minister, give counsel or direction to another believer or the body of Christ at large, sometimes a word of wisdom can be dropped into the spirit of a believer to be used to preach or teach, guidance, direction and change into the body of Christ.

In the same encounter with the woman at the well, Christ gave the woman a bit of wisdom that God was looking for worshippers that would worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

#### **i) Discerning of Spirits**

The gift of discerning of spirits is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human, or Satanic.

#### **j) Tongues**

The gift of tongues is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ (a) to speak to God in a language they have never learned and/or (b) to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely anointed utterance in a language they have never learned.

#### **k) Interpretation**

The gift of interpretation is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ. To make known in the vernacular the message of one who speaks in tongues.

### **B. POWER GIFTS**

#### **l) Gift of Faith**

The gift of faith is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for His work.

#### **m) Working of Miracles**

The gift of miracles is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to perform powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature.

#### **n) Gifts of Healing**

The gift of healing is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to cure illness and restore health apart from the use of natural means.

#### **4. SERVANTHOOD GIFTS**

These categories of gifts are given to individuals who play a strong supporting role in ministering to the body, mainly in church and para-church ministries. Many times these gifts are used to support the pastoral work of the church in a practical ministry application.

**o) Exhortation**

The gift of exhortation is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement, and counsel to other members of the body in such a way that they feel helped and healed.

**p) Giving**

The gift of giving is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness.

**q) Helps**

The gift of Helps is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to invest the talents they have in the life and ministry of other members of the body, thus enabling those others to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts.

**r) Mercy**

The gift of mercy is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals (both Christian and non-Christian) who suffer distressing physical, mental, or emotional problems and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering.

**s) Hospitality**

The gift of hospitality is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.

**t) Leadership**

The gift of leadership is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate these goals in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish those goals.

**u) Intercession**

The gift of intercession is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and see frequent and specific answers to their prayers, to a degree much greater than that which is expected of the average Christian.

**v) Service**

The gift of service is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make

use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results.

w) **Administration**

The gift of administration is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to understand clearly the immediate and long-range goals of a particular unit of the body of Christ and to devise and execute effective plans for the accomplishment of those goals.

**5. SPECIAL GIFTS**

x) **Celibacy**

The gift of celibacy is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to remain single and enjoy it; to be unmarried and not suffer undue sexual temptations. Sometimes, by the grace of God, we can receive this gift on a temporary basis while we are awaiting our God-given mate. The Word of God clearly tells us that man should not be forbidden to marry by another man; however, some people are called of God and ordained to do so. This should never be a choice of man, but only by the call of God.

y) **Martyrdom**

The gift of martyrdom is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to undergo suffering for the faith even to the point of death, while consistently displaying a joyous and victorious attitude which brings glory to God.

z) **Love**

The gift of Love is the special ability God gives to certain members of the body of Christ.

God bless you,

Brother Russ Moyer