

**JOURNAL & WORKBOOK**

positioned for the

# GIFTS



**PREPARING ORDINARY PEOPLE  
FOR EXTRAORDINARY  
POWER AND COMPASSION**

**STOTT/HUNT**

*"I encourage you to read this book and lean into all that  
God has designed for this moment in time."*

Bill Johnson, Bethel Church, Redding, CA



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PREPARING ORDINARY PEOPLE FOR  
EXTRAORDINARY POWER AND COMPASSION

Published by



**FMP**

Foursquare Missions Press

**This JOURNAL/WORKBOOK  
is designed to be used with the book:**

*Positioned for the Gifts  
Preparing Ordinary People for Extraordinary Power and Compassion*

Jerry Stott/Robert Hunt

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ISBN: 978-0-578-64242-0

Editor: Laurie De Revere  
Cover/Book Design: Wyce Ghiacy and Cheyne Jackson

Printed in the United States of America  
1 2 3 4 5 22 21 20 19

Published by Foursquare Missions Press  
4905 E. La Palma Ave.  
Anaheim, CA 92807

Visit [www.foursquaremissionspress.org](http://www.foursquaremissionspress.org)

## A Special Word from Pastor Bill Johnson

To adequately demonstrate the love of God apart from power is impossible. Only the miraculous can fully represent the radical weightiness of His desire for us to be free from all that ails us. In *Positioned for the Gifts*, Jerry Stott and Robert Hunt share a brilliantly practical exposition on both the value and the purpose of the spiritual gifts. We serve a God who has empowered us to release His Kingdom on the earth. As the authors write, “The Gifts are meant for battle, Kingdom of God warfare.” There are no sidelines in the Kingdom of God. We have all been called and equipped to invade the impossible. I encourage you to read this book and lean into all that God has designed for this moment in time.

Bill Johnson

Bethel Church, Redding, CA

Author of *When Heaven Invades Earth* and *The Way of Life*



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“Authentic transformation is possible if we are willing to do one thing, and that is to arrange our lives around the kind of practices and life Jesus led to be constantly receiving power and love from the Father.”

Dallas Willard, *The Spirit of the Disciplines*



# Why this Journal/Workbook?

Just what the world needs... another journal!

Although this Journal/Workbook is designed to compliment your reading of *Positioned for the Gifts*, it really is a way to document your journey — specifically, your walk with the Holy Spirit. It also includes new quotes, scriptures, and insights to inspire you on that journey.

Hopefully, the book will provoke you to journal, and through your journaling, to read more of the book. But, most importantly, the hope is that you will intentionally position yourself for more of the Spirit, more of the Gifts, more of God.

As you write in it, be real, be open, and be BOLD.

“One of the special marks of the Holy Ghost in the Apostolic (early) Church was the spirit of boldness.”  
A.B. Simpson

*...the righteous are as bold as a lion.* Proverbs 28:1



# The New Kingdom Warrior

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 1)

Listen to the voice of the Spirit. Move in the gifts of the Spirit. Be a believer who is able and willing to use every divine resource available to achieve the purposes of God for this generation. And, do it all with love – this is the new Kingdom Warrior.

Dynamic young author A.J. Swoboda succinctly and simply said to a group of 4,000 of his peers,

“When you walk in the Spirit, you see things differently.”

There is a growing group, comprised across generational and ethnic lines, that gets it; the day of the exalted, single personality driven ministry is passing and is giving way to an army of average, everyday individuals. These are believers who are hungry for God, solid in the Word, and steeped in the primacy of love. Their humility makes them keenly aware that they cannot gain ground in hand-to-hand Kingdom warfare – unless their weapons are of the Spirit.

Their faith is not merely some quaint, personal expression or a parental or cultural appendage – it is tied to something much larger and beyond themselves. They are the new cloud of witnesses, sharing a common passion



## JOURNAL *EXTRA*

What is the Kingdom of God?

According to Dr. Jack Hayford,

“The whole of Jesus’ own preaching, teaching, and ministry centered in these words: ‘The kingdom of God is at hand’ (Mark 1:15). He came as the Savior-Lamb to rescue and redeem mankind to know his original estate in the divine order. The dynamic of Christian life and ministry is found in understanding the kingdom of God, which is not in ‘eating and drinking’ (that is, ritual performance), but in ‘righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit’ (Romans 14:17).”

Scriptures to read regarding the Kingdom – Luke 17:20-21; Luke 11:14-20; Luke 4:43; Matthew 6:33; Matthew 13:41; Matthew 20:21; Mark 1:14-15

John the Baptist used the phrase often,

*Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near.* Matthew 3:2

Jesus used it,

*The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe.*  
Matthew 4:17

And, of course, His most famous use of the phrase is Matthew 6:10 when teaching the disciples to pray,

*Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

(Matthew uses the phrase “Kingdom of Heaven” as opposed to “Kingdom of God” in deference to the Jews.)

“The right vision of the Kingdom isn’t just theologically accurate. It will awaken tremendous desire in you. It





This new warrior understands the boundaries of this Kingdom of God, the “already but not yet.” They live in the realities of the fullness of the Spirit while being buffeted by the enemy and the flesh. They are realists based in the ideals of Scripture.

This new warrior has battled sin and has found freedom in grace. They know the toll on the human condition of missing the mark and how to extend God’s tender mercies. They will walk in the fruit of the Spirit hand in hand with those crushed in spirit.

The New Warrior will also walk in the gifts of the Spirit, to be empowered to extend the Kingdom of God to a broken world.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Meditate on this passage of Scripture and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you, “help” you on this journey.

*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*  
John 14:26

## **TAKE ACTION**

Find a solid block of time to be before the Lord. Tell Him your heart’s desires. Express your openness to all He has for you. Be willing to be still and listen to His voice.

**What is the Spirit Saying to You?**

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# Are the Gifts for You?

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapters 2, 3, and 4)

“The church today is going into battle without a true knowledge of those weapons. Any time you go to battle without your weapons properly functioning you cannot expect to win the fight.” Lester Sumrall

Spiritual gifts – how do they work? What are they and what are their purposes? Why do so few Christians seem to move in them? How can I move in them? Do I need to be more spiritual? Are the spiritual gifts really for me?

To answer the last question first, I can’t say it enough: The spiritual gifts are for you!

First things first: What are the Gifts of the Spirit described in 1 Corinthians 12?

## **THE GIFTS OF 1 CORINTHIANS 12 (A SUMMARY)**

**Context:** Paul was writing to the Corinthian church to correct the use of nine specific gifts given by the Holy Spirit. They considered the Gifts as ends in themselves, failing to understand their proper use in the church. They also improperly understood that the Gifts, unlike their pagan counterparts, do not “possess” people, but

empower, not overpower. The human will is never negated. All the Gifts, when properly manifested, will bring glory to Christ for “the profit of all.”

**Purpose:** To profit the body (the church). The Greek word *sumphero* means “to bring together, to benefit, to be advantageous.” The Gifts are available to every believer as the Spirit gives (1 Corinthians 12:11). They are not to be acknowledged passively, but actively desired; yet they are not received due to merit (1 Corinthians 13:1, 14:1). They are expressions of God’s grace at work to fulfill the mission of the Church (1 Corinthians 12:11-27).

**Definition:** An endowment or supernatural power given by the Holy Spirit

**Greek:** (Please refer to pages 310-312 of *Foundations of Pentecostal Theology*, Revised and Updated Volume 1.)

The New Testament uses six Greek words in reference to spiritual gifts. Here are the main two:

*Pneumatika* (1 Corinthians 12:1) - Often translated “spiritual gifts” (the word “gifts” is not in the original text and so it is written in italics in the NKJV) it literally means “spiritual” or “things of the spirit.”

*Charismata* (plural) (1 Corinthians 12:4) - The word *charis* is Greek and means “grace.” A *charisma* (singular) translates “gift” or “spiritual gift.” Hence, *charisma* is a “grace gift” given freely by God.

## **THE LIST/SUMMARY (IN ORDER):**

**Word of Wisdom:** Supernatural perspective for direction, problem solving, means for accomplishing Gods will (will work to compliment other gifts)

**Word of Knowledge:** Supernatural revelation of God’s will and actions of both past and present realities

**Gift of Faith:** Supernatural ability to believe and trust God in a given situation

**Gifts of Healings:** Supernatural ability to heal

**Gift of Working of Miracles:** Supernatural intervention of the laws of nature for the glory of God

**Gift of Prophecy:** Supernatural utterance to proclaim the will of God

**Gift of Discerning of Spirits:** Supernatural ability to detect and understand the purpose of various spirits

**Gift of Tongues:** Supernatural utterance in an unknown language to the speaker – can be a known language, or prayer language, or direct communication to the Holy Spirit

**Gift of Interpretation of Tongues:** Supernatural ability to know the meaning of the tongues being spoken

## **TAKE ACTION**

(Evaluate where you are in this spiritual process by answering the following questions as honestly as possible.)

What gifts do you currently operate in?

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Do you believe you can operate in them all?

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Why do you want to move in the Gifts?

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Share your thoughts, desires, and fears in moving in the things of God.

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What is your motivation to move in the Gifts?

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There are a lot of good reasons to want the Gifts as expressions in our life. But, no reason rises above the primacy of love... A force armed in power and love is being recruited to take ground owned by the enemy.

(See a few more reasons why we should want to move in the Gifts on page 41 and 42 of *Positioned for the Gifts*.)

Why do we need the Gifts in today's world?

We forget that the "Love Chapter" of 1 Corinthians 13 is written in context of 1 Corinthians 12:31, "*Earnestly desire the best gifts,*" and 14:1, "*Desire spiritual gifts.*" It is love that embraces the power of God for the purpose of establishing God's will and not our own. If we grow in love, we gain God's heart for the real reason He asks us to desire the gifts.

Read 1 Corinthians 13. Consider why love is the most compelling force for us to operate in the Gifts.

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Based on your reading of 1 Corinthians 13, where do you need to grow in the area of love?

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How is love, as described in the Bible, different than love described in our culture?

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“The power of God will not only heal the blind, it will open our eyes to others’ hurt and pain. It will open our ears to what the Spirit is truly saying through the Word.”  
*(Positioned for the Gifts, page 53)*

## **THE BATTLE PLAN – ACTS 1:8**

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

A resurrected Jesus promises the disciples that they would receive power. Not just any power, but power from the Holy Spirit. In so doing, this power would transform them into witnesses of His new covenant. A fearful band of believers would soon have the “juice” to take on, literally, the world.

Acts 1:8, combined with the power to achieve it in Acts 2, is the so-called “social gospel,” plus missions and evangelism, with Holy Ghost revival, in one verse! It’s tongues-speaking while feeding the poor. It’s prophesying hope over the prostitute. It’s healing the sick, then sharing the gospel with them. And it’s giving the disenfranchised not only the gospel of redemption, but with power.

Read all of Acts chapter one. These are the last words of Jesus before He ascended to the Father; therefore, they are critical to understand.

Consider the following from unreached people group expert Rachael Jackson.

“Acts 1:8 sets up the apostolic missions work that models to every believer the power and the work of the Holy Spirit to transform lives in Jerusalem, Judea,

Samaria, and the ends of the earth. The empowering and commissioning to every believer in Acts 1:8 is not intended to operate as a sequential and robust missions strategy. The text does not read, ‘You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and then Judea, and then Samaria, and then the ends of the earth.’ Rather, Acts 1:8 is a simultaneous occurrence of Spirit-empowered missional activity conducted by faithful martyrs (meaning witness and martyr). God has brought the ends of the earth to our Jerusalems! We can be faithful to simultaneously make disciples of all ethnē in our Jerusalems, and our Judeas, and our Samarias, and the ends of the earth.

“As God has brought the ends of the earth to our Jerusalems, we live in an unprecedented time for followers of Jesus to bring the Good News of Jesus to unreached people groups. 3 billion people among over 7,000 distinct people groups remain unreached with the gospel. As our Jerusalems are populated with representatives from the ends of the earth, followers of Jesus can lovingly represent Christ and befriend these neighbors and be a conduit by which the Holy Spirit begins to work in the hearts of those seeking Jesus.”

What does it mean to be a “witness” according to this passage? (What have you “witnessed” in your faith walk? What do you desire to “witness”?)

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How can the fruit of the Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit work together in a believer to glorify God?

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“The true gifts of the Holy Spirit, when manifested in their scriptural and correct way, will always focus people’s hearts upon Jesus Christ.” Chuck Smith

**Are All the Gifts Available to Me? (*Gifts*, page 70)**

Can any believer move in all the Gifts?

- Nowhere in Scripture does it say the Gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12 are not for all believers.
- The phrase to each one, to no one, or to another does not mean each gift is given exclusively to someone at the exclusion of another.
- 1 Corinthians 12:31 and 14:1 - Paul tells his audience to desire the Gifts. Why would he do so if you were not able to participate in them?
- The Gifts are distributed to each one by the Spirit as He wills for the profit of all.
- 1 Corinthians 14:31 says, “*For you can all prophesy.*” Yet, this is distinct from the Office of the Prophet

where Paul states, “*Are all prophets?*” (1 Corinthians 12:29)

- Just as not all are called to the office of an evangelist, pastor, or teacher, yet we all can, and should, share the gospel, care for people, and teach others.
- “*Do all speak in tongues?*” (1 Corinthians 12:30)  
Paul’s anticipating a negative answer, but he is not referring to tongues as a private prayer language, but it is a reference to tongues in a public setting. Paul wished that everyone spoke in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:5) and he shared how he spoke in tongues more than those in the Corinthian Church. (1 Corinthians 14:18)
- Most importantly, the Gifts often work together. For example, a word of knowledge often precedes the gift of healing. Do you believe God wants to use you to move in the Gifts to love others?

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Is there any gift you feel is impossible for you to move in? Why? Could it be that in your *weakness* He can be made strong?

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Speak this statement out loud:

“I am gifted by God. I believe gifts of the Holy Spirit are ready to flow out of me to bless others.”

How did that impact your emotions? Do you believe it?

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“The devil is a liar, but never forget that he is a very loud liar. You must choose to turn off his voice by turning up the voice of God.” Christine Caine





# How to Receive the Gifts

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 5)

Talking to thousands of believers over the years about how to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, there seems to be a common denominator: there are no precise steps, prayer, or formula. The Holy Spirit manifests these gifts “*as He wills.*” (1 Corinthians 12:11)

Sometimes believers find themselves in a situation where a spiritual gift manifests itself without request. But, more often than not, the believer has “positioned” himself to receive and then move in the gift.

You can have a word of knowledge drop into your mind, but refuse to speak it. The Spirit of God is looking to move through obedient, faith-filled, loving believers. Yes, He can, and does, use anyone; but, to move consistently in the Gifts we must be prepared to receive.

Read the eight ways to position your spiritual life on pages 80-108 of *Positioned for the Gifts*.

## **TAKE ACTION**

Answer the following questions as truthfully as you can.

1. Is your hunger for the things of God greater than your appetite for the things of this world?

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2. How critical is the Word of God in your life? (Do you read it daily? Meditate on it? Memorize it?)

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3. “The Holy Spirit is in me for my sake, but He is upon me for yours.” Bill Johnson

Are you currently in a position to serve the Body of Christ? Are you in a church that encourages you to move in the gifts of the Spirit through service?

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4. How natural is praising God in public for you? In private? Are you seeking His presence more than your pleasure?

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5. “We are too busy to pray, and so we are too busy to have power.” R.A. Torrey

Describe your prayer life and how you actively listen to God.

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6. Have you ever asked to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? If so, describe. If not, read Matthew 7:7-11 and Luke 11:11-13 and have someone who has experience praying for others to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit lay hands on you.

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7. Study Acts 2 and meditate on how the disciples waited on the Lord. On a scale of one to ten, ten being the highest, how would you rate your ability to wait on the Lord?

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8. Read about Ananias and Paul in Acts 9:10-18. Have you “laid hands” on others? (See Mark 16:17-18)

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*Given by  
the Spirit*

The **Word**

**DIVINE  
UNDERSTANDING**

**“truth bomb”**

of

**REQUEST it**

**TRUTH**

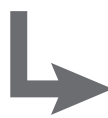
**BEYOND**

**Human Wisdom**

**WISDOM**

**UNLOCK  
HURT  
&  
SHAME**

**1 Cor. 12:8**



**A GIFT** from the **LORD**

# Operating in the Gift of the Word of Wisdom

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 6)

“It can change the direction of your life. It can provide a pathway forward when you feel hopelessly stuck. And it can come from multiple sources.” *Positioned for the Gifts*, page 118

Pentecostal Theologian Dr. Donald Gee states:

“In a manifestation of the spiritual gift of the word of wisdom, something flashes. There is a sense of the divine, a consciousness of an utterance transcending human experience. One is deeply conscious that the supremely right thing has been said and the true course of action indicated.”

He goes on to confidently say:

“No further appeal is desired because the heart rests in a calm satisfaction that the will of God has been revealed.”

## JOURNAL *EXTRA*

Here is a different take from the late Pastor Chuck Smith on this gift's operation:

“Now, many times I believe that this gift is exercised without even our knowledge that it is the exercise of the gift of the word of wisdom... you do not get some kind of buzzing or ringing or bells go off. It does not work that way. It works in a very natural way... that we are not even aware that the gift is being exercised.”  
(blueletterbible.org April 1, 2006)

- Study Mark 12:17 and Matthew 22:21 and see how the word of wisdom operated in Jesus' life.
- How did the word of knowledge and word of wisdom work together with the Samaritan woman in John 4:16-18?
- See Acts 6:8-10 and how Stephen moved in this gift.
- In Acts 10, how did Peter experience the word of wisdom?

How is the gift of the word of wisdom different than godly wisdom?

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Why is this gift important to the Body of Christ?

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What in your life (personal or for others) do you need a word of wisdom for?

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**SUPERNATURAL**  
*Revelation*

**The**  
**WORD** **of**

THE STILL SMALL  
VOICE

**KNOWLEDGE**

SETTING CAPTIVES FREE

**CAUTION:** *MOVE in Humility*

**LISTEN**  
to the Spirit

**RISK** *read  
your  
mail*

**SPEAK** ONLY IN **LOVE**

# Operating in the Gift of the Word of Knowledge

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 7)

“The Spirit conveys to our mind thoughts we imperfectly communicate with our words.” Mike Bickle

## WHAT IS A WORD OF KNOWLEDGE?

It is a supernatural revelation of knowledge, not acquired through natural means. Usually it is a fragment of information given by God for a person or a situation. It is truth that the Holy Spirit wants revealed to produce a desired result.

It is not given just to disseminate knowledge or prove one’s spirituality, but is given to produce fruit, like the woman at the well. She was not one who easily believed. In fact, she argued repeatedly at the well with the very Son of God! Jesus’ word of knowledge helped to cut away the hardness surrounding her heart.

Sometimes it’s given to protect the people in the church – insights into someone who might bring harm to others. Other times it may be knowledge that serves as a warning – the classic story being John Wimber sitting next to a

complete stranger on a 747 jet. God revealed to him supernatural knowledge regarding the stranger's adulterous affair, even the name of the woman, including a warning that unless he repented, God would soon take his life. The man not only repented and received Christ, but also confessed to his wife while on the plane, even leading her to Jesus.

## **5 KEYS TO THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE**

1. Like the other gifts, it is a supernatural impartation; its focus is a revelation of facts about someone or something. For example, "I'm sensing from the Lord you are struggling with a big decision . . ."
2. It's not knowledge discerned naturally.
3. It can be a fragment of facts, an impression, or an image. "I'm seeing you as a little girl holding your dad's hand... does that mean anything to you now?"
4. Like the other gifts, it is not something permanent, but given by the Spirit in the moment you need it.
5. This gift requires great caution, maturity, and humility. Some words of knowledge should not be spoken, or should be given at a later, more appropriate time.

## **HOW CAN WE MOVE IN THE GIFTS?**

1. Listen to "the still small voice." Study 1 Kings 19:11-12.
  - Voice is different for everyone
  - Sometimes images, or unexpected emotion

- Pain in your body that you know it's not you, but to indicate someone else's pain or ailment
  - Words that come into your mind or you "see" in your mind's eye
  - Sometimes you just "know that you know" about something or someone. This knowledge is often overwhelming and not discerned naturally or empirically.
2. Ask the question: "Lord, what are you doing?"
    - Expect Him to answer.
    - Be willing to stop and listen.
  3. Be willing to risk and step out in faith.
    - Often you'll get a fragment or a portion of the word and the rest will come as you initiate or ask a question like, "Does this mean anything to you?"
    - Know that your ability to discern between your own flesh and the Spirit will grow as you keep stepping out and risking.
  4. Know the Word of God.
    - No word of knowledge will ever contradict or dishonor the Word of God.
    - Oftentimes you'll get a verse or Bible story in your mind that is for someone else.
  5. Be humble and not dramatic.
    - If what you share is not received, be willing to say, "Maybe I got that wrong; forgive me."
    - Don't draw attention to yourself, but always to God.

6. No fear but the fear of the Lord allowed.

- If you regularly move in the Gifts, you will make mistakes. Fear of making a mistake, along with ignorance of the Gifts, are the two big reasons people never move in them.
- Conversely, don't be afraid of receiving a word of knowledge from someone.
- Walk in the fear of the Lord, and the fear of man will become less and less.

Study 1 Corinthians 12:7.

*But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.*

How does a word of knowledge profit someone?

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Describe when you have either moved in or received a word of knowledge.

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DISCERNING

*Human Spirit*

*Angelic Spirits*

of Spirits

FROM Man, Satan OR

WOLVES GOD?

*Among Sheep*

DEMONIC SPIRITS

“Test the Spirits”

COUNTERFEIT

**TRUE** OR  
**FALSE**

Protect the Sheep

# Operating in the Discerning of Spirits

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 8)

*Discerning* – “The quality of being able to grasp and comprehend what is obscure.” Merriam Webster

The gift of discerning of spirits involves a supernatural perception that allows an individual to perceive the type of spirit that is behind a person, especially their words and actions.

Simply, this gift allows the believer to distinguish the origin of the words and actions of an individual – are they from man, God, or Satan?

There are three types of spirit beings in our universe.

1. The Human Spirit (Read Thessalonians 5:23)
  - Body, soul, and spirit
2. The Angelic Spirit (Read Hebrews 1:7; 1:14)
  - Demonic and angelic
3. The Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit (Read John 4:24)
  - (Obviously not on the same level as the other two.)

Each possesses a dimension that transcends the physical; and each is knowable by humans.

## WHY DO WE NEED THIS GIFT?

1. It can help you know what is afflicting a person, especially someone suffering mental issues.
  - Is it depression or demonic?
  - Is it the flesh or a spirit?

Knowing can make all the difference in “setting the captives free.” Obviously, great caution is needed here. (Study Mark 5:15; Luke 9:39; Acts 5:16)

2. This gift can help when discernment is needed regarding people in the church. Supernatural insight into motives and what is “feeding” those motives can be critical in protecting the church.

(Study Acts 13:9-10; 1 John 4:1-6)

We are not to be skeptical, but discerning. In regard to prophecy, we are encouraged to “test.”

*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” 1 John 4:1*

3. This gift will help you discern and expose error. It’s one thing to perceive doctrinal error based on solid biblical exegesis, but another to discern a “lying spirit.” (See 2 Peter 2)

*Now the Spirit expressly says that in the latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons. 1 Timothy 4:1*

(To read more on this go to *Gifts*, pages 152-155.)

## **JOURNAL *EXTRA***

What should I do if I encounter a demonic presence?

**WARNING:** If you are new in this gift, and/or new in your faith – always seek out someone mature in this gifting and ask for help.

(The following is brief and not intended to be a comprehensive study.)

- Know that all authority over the spirit world comes in the person of Jesus Christ. Take that authority given to you as a believer in Christ and stand against whatever evil spirit is manifesting.

“In the name of Jesus I command any spirit of (Fill in the blank – lust, idolatry, anger, hatred, jealousy, etc. This spirit type may be revealed to you as you pray.) to leave and not come back.”

- The “casting out” of a demonic being is only a part of the process. A time of repentance, forgiveness may be needed. Also, follow up counseling and prayer is always suggested.

(Again, if you are new to this ministry, seek a mentoring relationship with someone who wisely moves in this gift and exhibits great love and compassion for those impacted by demonic influence.)

Read the following two accounts experienced by Dr. Jerry Stott.

After preaching on total submission to God and His work, the altar filled up with hearts broken and ready to serve Jesus with all that they had. While praying and ministering

to those at the altar, the atmosphere changed from humble surrender to God, to fear and a mass exodus from the beautiful time at the altar.

A young mother had also come forward, but during her time of surrender a very vocal demonic presence manifested. Screams and shrieks brought fear and chills throughout the church. People all made their exit, some grabbing and covering their children and infants as if to somehow protect them from this wicked presence.

Altar workers quickly began crying out and commanding, “Come out of her in Jesus’ name.” With the commands against this wicked force, the screams and shrieks only got worse. With all this drama, I was forced to step in and bring order in the chaos. I told the woman to stop and follow me out of the sanctuary to a quiet room in the back. I quickly discerned the reason for the bondage, rebuked it, and set free this young mother.

I sensed this evil spirit had roots in her life from when she was still a child. About a month later this young woman contacted me and told me this was the first freedom she had in over 12 years.

The secret to the breakthrough was to first identify the source that brought the bondage. And secondly, with our authority in the name of Jesus, command this presence to leave.

Through the many years of holding youth outreaches all over the world, we have come to know, and even expect, a common manifestation in our services. In most of our youth outreach events we always hold a full session on the baptism of the Holy Spirit. With this purposeful plan, we have witnessed over 100,000 young people instantly baptized in the Holy Spirit, sometimes even more than 3,000 in a single service.

What seems to happen is that with all of that glory of the presence of the Lord filling these young people, the forces of darkness always seem to show up and be exposed in outrages and ugly manifestations. I believe this is to distract from the beautiful time of outpouring. I also believe they show up because these evil spirits just cannot handle the presence of the Lord in this magnitude.

One of the most humorous occasions to me was when we held an altar call with over 1,400 teenagers rushing to the altar to find themselves instantly baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. During this beautiful time, of course, the evil one had to show up to distract it. A group of young people came to me and asked me to help with a young man that was contorting, slithering on the ground, and foaming at the mouth. I said, "I am enjoying watching these others receive the Holy Spirit. Just have your youth leader go and deal with this." They responded, "He is our youth leader."

With this information I immediately went to this young man, rebuked the spirit, and commanded it to leave. We continued on and had one of the greatest outpourings I have ever personally experienced.

The secret in these events is to first expect that the enemy will try to distract and show himself during great moves of the Holy Spirit. Secondly, be prepared to use your authority in Jesus to stop this unwanted activity before it distracts even more beautiful times of healing and breakthrough.







the **GIFT** of

**STEP OUT OF THE BOAT**

**FAITH**

*transrational certainty*

Assurance that GOD Will Act

**MUSTARD SEED**

**Mountains**

**MOVE**

YOU **KNOW** that you **KNOW**

# Operating in the Gift of Faith

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 9)

“This gift (faith) is a supernatural surge of confidence from the Spirit of God which arises within a person faced with a specific situation or need whereby that person receives a trans-rational certainty and assurance that God is about to act through a word or action.” David Pytches (*Positioned for the Gifts*, page 166)

“Faith does not operate in the realm of the possible. Faith begins where man’s power ends.” George Muller

What is the difference between personal faith and the gift of faith given by the Holy Spirit?

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*Without faith it is impossible to please God.*

Hebrews 11:6

Can we build our faith? If so, how? (Read *Gifts*, pages 175-181)

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Why is it so critical for believers (you) to walk in faith? And where are you in your “faith walk”? What fears do you have about “stepping out in faith”?

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Have you ever experienced a “supernatural surge of confidence from the Holy Spirit”? If so, describe.

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*So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. Romans 10:17*

“Notice it does not say, faith comes from having heard. The whole nature of faith implies a relationship with God that is current. The emphasis is on hearing... in the now!” Bill Johnson - *When Heaven Invades Earth*

## **TAKE ACTION**

Ask the Lord to increase your faith and to open your spirit to the gift of faith. Write any steps you feel led to take to grow in your faith walk.

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# Operating in the Gifts of Healing

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 10)

How can I position myself for this gift? (Read *Gifts*, pages 195-197) List the three things that are a critical starting point.

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How do the authors deal with the issue of someone that is not healed? (*Gifts*, pages 200-201, 203-211)

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Is it contradictory to believe that God's heart is to heal and not everyone is healed?

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Study the 11 practical insights into the ministry of healing on page 202 of *Positioned for the Gifts*. Any more you would add?

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## **TAKE ACTION**

Write out a list of people whom you are praying for that need healing. List their names, what needs to be healed, and date you prayed for them.

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**SUPERNATURAL**

**GLORY**

to

**ESTABLISH  
HIS KINGDOM**

**GOD**

**POWER**

*motivated by*

**COMPASSION**

**SIGNS & WONDERS**

**MIRACLES**

the  
Gift  
of

# Operating in the Gift of Miracles

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 11)

The Greek phrase *energemata dynameon* literally translates “workings of power” or “powerful deeds.” NIV calls it “miraculous powers” while KJV “the working of miracles.”

It is listed separately from the gift of healing because it included possible examples such as raising from the dead (Acts 9) and causing blindness (Acts 13). Jesus refers to the casting out of demons in Mark 9:38-39 as a “miracle.”

The Gift of Miracles is:

1. Supernatural power to intervene and counteract earthly and evil forces
2. Literally means a display of power giving the ability to go beyond the natural
3. Operates closely with the gifts of faith and healing to bring authority over sin, Satan, sickness, and the binding forces of this age (*Positioned for the Gifts*, page 216)

(See miracles mentioned in the Epistles – 2 Corinthians 12:12; Hebrews 2:4; Galatians 3:5; 1 Thessalonians 1:5)

The question isn't if God performs miracles today; almost the entire Body of Christ believes He does. The question really is: does the Holy Spirit give to individuals today the gift of miracles?

Here are some considerations:

1. The primary argument is that only the Apostles could work miracles for the purpose of establishing the gospel.
  - What about modern day missionaries, church planters, who are establishing the gospel among unreached peoples – would not God use the miraculous as He did in the New Testament? There are countless testimonies by respected men and women in modern day that He has done just that.
2. Why would Paul list it among the nine gifts if it was only for the Apostles?
3. Miracles are, by definition, rare. It would seem safe to say that even those who move in this gift do so only when the Spirit decides, and then rarely.

Do you believe you can move in this gift? Have you done so before?

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How does our culture impact our expectation to see miracles?

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How does seeing life through a prism of supernatural interventions impact the daily walk of a believer? (See *Gifts*, page 241)

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# PROPHECY

THE GIFT OF

*divinely anointed utterance*

REVELATION

RESTORATION

IMPARTATION

EDIFICATION

EXHORTATION

*Does it build up, encourage or comfort?*

# Operating in the Gift of Prophecy

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 12)

What is the gift of Prophecy?

The Gift of Prophecy as defined by the late church growth expert C. Peter Wagner:

“The gift of prophecy is the special ability that God gives to members of the Body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to his people through a divinely anointed utterance.”

Prophecy, in both the Old and New Testaments, fulfills two needs: foretelling which is speaking about events to come in the future, and forthtelling which communicates a specific message from the heart of God.

According to Paul in 1 Corinthians 14:31,

*For you can all prophesy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged.*

Yet, he recognizes the ministry of the prophet in Ephesians 4:11,

*Though all can prophesy not all are prophets.*

There is a misunderstanding of the ministry of the prophet from the gift of prophecy. All of us can prophesy, but not all of us operate in the office of the prophet.

The prophet moves consistently in this gift and is recognized by the church for their character and accuracy.

Here is a brief story from retired missionary Dave Stone showing how the office of the prophetic operated in his church.

“When we were pastoring in Texas, we had a man in the church with a strong gift of prophecy. I would venture to say that he functioned in the office of a prophet. One thing I appreciated about him was that he was always submitted to me as his pastor. He would never interrupt a service to bring a word. Instead, he would get my attention and signal me that he had a word. Then, he would wait for me to give him permission to speak. If I didn’t feel it was right, he wouldn’t say a thing. But, when I said to the congregation, ‘Let’s pause before the Lord, Vic has a word for someone,’ then he would be free to speak.

“At times, it was a word of prophecy for the church; but other times it was a personal prophecy. If it was, Vic would approach that person and take their hand, and tell them what he saw. Most of his prophecies came in the form of a vision. I never had anyone come to me and say they were offended, or the word was wrong.

“On one occasion, a young lady who had backslidden and been out of the church for months, showed up on a Sunday morning. Vic got a word for her, and it sounded quite strong. As a pastor, I was just happy to see her back in church; but after the word that she received, I was afraid she would never come back.

“After the service, I made a beeline straight to her to apologize and try to smooth things over so that she would come back. However, she said, ‘Everything Vic said was right, and exactly what I needed to hear.’ She wasn’t turned off by it because she knew it was a word from God.

“On another occasion, he went up to an elderly lady and told her to get her house in order because she had little time left. That was a strong word. But, within two months she was with the Lord, proving his word was true.”

Pastor Ben Dixon in his excellent book *Prophecy: Releasing God’s Voice* summarizes it well,

“...not only can EVERYONE hear the voice of God personally (John 10:27), but EVERYONE can hear the voice of God prophetically as well.”

Have you ever heard the voice of the Lord personally and for others?

## **WAYS TO KNOW THE VOICE IS THE LORD’S**

*But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 1 Corinthians 14:3*

It edifies, exhorts, and it comforts.

The key to moving in the prophetic is hearing God’s voice. Re-read pages 254-257. (Read Mark Batterson’s *Whisper: How to Hear the Voice of God*. Also, Dr. Nick Gough’s *When the Old Becomes New: Embracing the Gifts of the Spirit* – especially chapter 12, Hearing God for Others.)

Why is the prophetic critical today in the church? (See *Gifts*, pages 260-265)

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**TAKE ACTION**

Ask the Lord to teach you how to better hear His voice. Take time to listen. Read the Scripture and meditate on it. Ask the Lord to speak to you from it. **WRITE IT DOWN.**

Ask the Lord to give you prophetic words for others. Maybe start with people you know and trust that will give you honest feedback. Don't be afraid to fail; no one hears perfectly. We are all growing from "glory to glory" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

**What is the Spirit saying to you?**

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INSPIRED by Holy  
the Spirit

The Gift of

**TONGUES**

Comfort & Interpretation

Public Worship

**Private Prayer**

EDIFY

**BATTLE**

in the

SPIRIT

**P  
R  
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with  
the

**S  
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*"I thank God that I speak in tongues..."*

# Operating in the Gift of Tongues

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 13)

There are 3 distinct manifestations of tongues in the Bible:

- A language (see Acts 2) where the speaker does not know the language, but when they speak it, it is understood by those whose language it is. It's considered a sign to the unbeliever. (1 Corinthians 14:22; Acts 2:12)
- A language not known by the speaker, not necessarily of human source, possibly angelic (see 1 Corinthians 13:1) done in public worship to edify the body. It should be followed by an interpretation and is divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 14:27)
- A language, not known by the speaker, usually associated with a private prayer language, not needing interpretation. Its purpose is not communal, but to edify the speaker. (1 Corinthians 14:4-5; Jude 20, 21)



The Bible clearly distinguished between praying in our learned language and praying in an unknown prayer language. 1 Corinthians 14 clarifies:

*...I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding...* 1 Corinthians 14:15

## **TONGUES AS A PRAYER LANGUAGE**

*He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands but him.*

1 Corinthians 14:2

Combined with 1 Corinthians 14:15, the scripture seems to indicate a personal prayer language. How is this different than the gift of tongues?

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Why is praying in tongues important to every believer?  
(See *Gifts*, pages 278 – 282)

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What is the setting and purpose of the interpretation of tongues? (See *Gifts*, pages 283-287)

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**TAKE ACTION** (SEE *GIFTS*, PAGES 293-298)

Ask God for your personal prayer language and/or help someone else receive theirs.

**What is the Spirit saying to you?**

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# The Parable of the Talents and the Flasher

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 14)

Read the parable of the talents in Matthew 25.

What was/is Jesus trying to teach us from this parable?

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What are the talents needed for?

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Consider how you “invest” in your life. Is it primarily for the Kingdom of God or the kingdom of the world?

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## **TAKE ACTION**

Have you been guilty of “burying” your giftings? Take inventory. Repent and renew your commitment to serving the purposes of God for this generation.

**BONUS** (Read the story of the Flashers in *Positioned for the Gifts*)

Prayerfully list creative ways you can reach your world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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# Full Throttle in the Church

(Refer to *Positioned for the Gifts* Chapter 15)

The authors list five essential qualities of the church (*Gifts*, pages 318-319). What would you add?

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Meditation of Philippians 3:10 – How does moving in power and fellowship in His suffering conform us to Him? What does Paul mean by “fellowship of His suffering”?

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How much do you want to know Him?

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**TAKE ACTION**

Meet with your church leaders and together pray how you might best serve your local congregation.

**What is the Spirit saying to you?**

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# Let this Journal/Workbook help take you to a deeper place in the Spirit.

Based on the book *Positioned for the Gifts*, authors Jerry Stott and Robert Hunt ask probing questions, add additional insights, and provide space to journal thoughts and prayers.

Their hope is that you record your growth in each of the nine gifts of the Spirit, listed in 1 Corinthians 12.

All proceeds from this book benefit the ministry of Foursquare Missions Press and the Foursquare mission work in the South Pacific.

Published by



**FMP**  
Foursquare Missions Press

ISBN 978-0-578-64242-0 \$5.95  
50595 >



9 780578 642420