

The Holy Spirit

Gifts and Benefits



12 Foundation Stones Class 2B for younger children



Class Section 1: The Benefits of the Holy Spirit

* Love

Galatians 5:22-23—But the fruit of the Spirit is love,...

* The Holy Spirit helps and strengthens us

Ephesians 3:16—He [the Father] will give you that strength through his Spirit.

John 14:16—The Father...will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever.

* The Holy Spirit guides us and gives us understanding of God's Word

John 16:13—However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;

John 14:26—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.



***The Holy Spirit empowers our witness to others**

Acts 1:8— You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses.



Class Section 2: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

In the [previous class](#) you read how the Lord sent the Holy Spirit to His first disciples and the effect it had in their lives. Now we're going to look at the gifts of the Spirit and how these can make a difference in your life.

1 Corinthians 12:4-10 - There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all.

The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak with wisdom. And the same Spirit gives another person the ability to speak with knowledge. The same Spirit gives faith to one person and to another he gives gifts of healing. The Spirit gives to one person the power to do miracles, to another the ability to prophesy, and to another the

ability to judge what is from the Spirit and what is not. The Spirit gives one person the ability to speak in different kinds of languages, and to another the ability to interpret those languages.

There are nine basic gifts of the Spirit:

- Discernment
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Faith.
- Prophecy
- Healings
- Miracles
- The ability to speak in different kinds of languages (tongues)
- The ability to interpret those languages



The Lord chooses which gifts to give to whom.

1 Corinthians 12:11—It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.



1. Discernment

Discernment is defined as "keenness of insight or judgment"—the ability to perceive the spirit and intent behind what others say or do.



2. Knowledge

The spiritual gift of knowledge goes far beyond mental knowledge; it's getting a glimpse of the heart and mind of God. You know things you wouldn't otherwise know.

3. Wisdom

What is wisdom?—How to use the knowledge of God! It's one thing to know things, that's knowledge, and that's good, that's one of the gifts of the Spirit, but it's another thing to know how to use that knowledge, and that's wisdom, another gift of the Spirit.



4. Faith

The gift of faith is not very obvious. You can't see it; you can't tell what color it is; you can't hear it. But you can certainly tell by the way people act how much faith they've got.

Every child of God is given a measure of faith. Our faith grows every time we read, absorb, and act upon the Word of God. But to have especially great faith for certain things is a gift of the Holy Spirit.



5. Prophecy

The gift of prophecy is that of receiving messages from the Lord. The Lord wants to speak to us to guide and encourage us.



6./7. Healing and miracles

Jesus still performs miracles for and through His followers today—miracles of healing and other events.



8. Tongues

The gift of tongues is the ability to speak, pray, or praise God in one or more unlearned languages.

9. Interpretation of tongues

Sometimes tongues are meant to be understood by the Lord alone, but other times they convey messages that the Lord wants you and possibly others to understand and benefit from. The Lord can give you the interpretation of the message in tongues if you ask Him.



* Using God's gifts with the right motives

The main purpose of the Spirit's gifts is to help others and ourselves to be closer to the Lord. These are gifts from a loving heavenly Father to His children to help communicate understanding of Himself and His Will.



Class Section 3: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Questions and Answers

*** Are the gifts of the Holy Spirit simply there for the asking, or does the Lord decide who gets which gifts, and when?**

Sometimes the Lord will give someone a certain gift without them having specifically requested it. Most often, however, He'll give it in response to our request.

* How and when can I expect my new gift to first show itself?

If you ask for a gift, the Lord will answer, but He will choose which are the most important gifts for you in your life and also the right timing to manifest those gifts.



* What is the most important gift?

Love is the most important thing! Look what Paul says in 1 Corinthians:

1 Corinthians 12:31, 13:8 — You should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all...

Prophecy and speaking in unknown languages and special knowledge will become useless. But love will last forever!