

THE BRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

STUDIES IN THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

FIRST STUDY MONDAY 1st MARCH
READING – 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-7
THEME – HOW CAN I DEVELOP MY SPIRITUAL GIFT?

1. POINTS OF AGREEMENT –

- a. The Holy Spirit is a Person
- b. The Fullness of the Holy Spirit
- c. The Fullness of the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit is for today
- d. The Importance of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit for the health & growth of the local church

Each gift is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit: each gift reveals the activity of the Holy Spirit. Each gift brings good to a local church. The gifts are supernatural. Petts – “Through the gifts of the Spirit the church of Jesus Christ has available to it the miracle-working power of the true and living God.”

2. HOW CAN MY GIFT DEVELOP?

Gifts can be imparted directly by the Holy Spirit or through the Holy Spirit using someone - see Romans 1:11, 2 Timothy 1:6. But, in regard to the latter way, the gift is still determined by the Holy Spirit.

- a. Keep being filled with the Holy Spirit
- b. Understand the particular purpose of your gift
- c. Grow in your love for people
- d. Wait on the Lord
- e. Speak in your new language
- f. Grow in faith
- g. Fill your mind with the Word of God
- h. Be open to discipline
- i. You are to be a blessing
- j. Acknowledge the Lordship of Jesus Christ in your life
- k. Practice Worship and Praise
- l. Live in harmony with the HOLY Spirit

3. QUESTIONS

- a. From the material tonight
- b. On the gifts of the Holy Spirit

4. WHAT WILL WE DO NEXT?

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SECOND STUDY MONDAY 23rd MAY
READING – 1 CORINTHIANS 14:20-26
THEME – SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND EVANGELISM

POINTS OF AGREEMENT – aim tonight is to expand our understanding of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are not only vital for the growth and development of the Body of Christ but in our evangelism in the world we live and serve God in.

- We are all signed up to the Great Commission of Mark 16:15-18 – “Go into all the world and preach the Gospel.....they will lay hands on the sick and they will recover.”
- We are united in the belief that our priority today is to continue what Jesus “began both to do and teach” Acts 1:1.
- We all understand that Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, ministered under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Take a look at Luke 4:18-19 – what gifts of the Holy Spirit are mentioned there?
- We know what Jesus promised in John 14:12 – “..greater works than these he will do, because I go to my Father.”

Story – from the book “Prophecy: A Practical Guide To Developing Your Prophetic Gift” by Bruce Collins.

THE LOCAL CHURCH – what we are looking at here is the use of the voice gifts within a local church service when there are unsaved people present.

- “Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers...” See verses 22-23. Paul is highlighting how the use of spiritual tongues within a public meeting can have a negative effect on unsaved people present. It will turn them off.
- “But if all prophecy, and an unbeliever....comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all.” See verses 24-25. This gift will have the desired effect – the unsaved will confess that God is truly present.

Story – from the book “Surprised by the Power of the Spirit” by Jack Deere

THE LOCAL COMMUNITY -

- We are all familiar with the words of Jesus in 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 end of the earth.” What does that mean?
- Is Luke 19:5 and John 4:18 examples of the gift of a word of knowledge in the life of Jesus? Words of knowledge not in a synagogue but out in the open.
- We know how a blind man was healed by the side of the road John 9; a man raised from the dead in a graveyard John 11; a leper healed on the streets of a city Luke 5; a woman with a fever delivered in her own home Luke 4.

CONCLUSION - all I have sought to do tonight is to challenge us to see the gifts of the Holy Spirit operating outwith the walls of a local church. Also, the gifts of the Holy Spirit cannot be divorced from the calling we have to evangelise our Jerusalem, our Judea, our Samaria and the ends of our world.