

A Study of Spiritual Gifts B. Dutton 6-13-20

How to Begin to Develop and Use Spiritual Gifts (SG), class #3 page -1-

Information for this class came from includes: A Study in Spirituality by E. Curry; observing the lives of spiritual people, and my own personal experiences.

- It will be helpful if you have your list of SG from last class with you today.
- Joel 2:27-32 & 1Ne.3:230

Our Heavenly Father desires us to be free He does want us to: show Him a deep concern about the SG, see the need to have them, have faith to inquire of the Lord, withdraw ourselves from the world to obtain them, and have the SG in our lives.

of: selfishness, narrow thinking, spiritually ignorant, lacking desire, without deep interest, little dedication, at ease in Zion.

Purpose of today's last class is by using the list previously provided we may:

- Find ways to discover what our individual spiritual gifts are
- which spiritual gifts have been given to us for our own spiritual guidance
- and those we are to use for the benefit of all.

*The wonderful experiences of uplift, and of insights will come to all who will utilize the gifts and power that are theirs. Particularly if they **do this with faith in Him. Search out these ways under the guidance of the H.S. and practice them one by one.*** E. Curry Endowment pg.59:28-35

- To understand receiving the SG; it is best if we first **understand how the H.S. works** (Jn 16:13). List of some of the attributes of the H.S. page -3-
- Secondly understand what is NOT of the Holy Spirit (DC46:3b-4b, 50:1-3,,; 1 Cor. 12:3):

The adversaries voice: Obsesses, worries, frightens, rushes, discourages, confuses, pushes, condemns. **God's voice:** Calms, comforts, corrects, encourages, enlightens, leads, reassures, stills.

1c. Lets break down the SG, some:

Provide communion with God

Spiritual quickening,

In response to special needs,

Are of Divine endowment

Resulting from a particular obedience to the laws of the Lord.

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Some of the attributes of the H.S. are:

Comforter DC19:3, 34:5a;	Unifies 1 Cor. 12:12-27, Eph. 4:1-6
Leading 1N1:106	Gives us joy DC10:7; Mos. 2:5; 1Thes.1:6, Gal.5:22, Rm 14:17
Persuade E1:106	Lord works by the H.S. 3N13:59; Eph. 3:20
Enticing Mos. 1:120, Mi. 7:10-11	Testifies Alma 5:28
Transporting 2N3:40	Inspires scripture 1N13:59
Teach John 14:26; 2N14:11	Sanctifies Alma 10:4
Brings to remembrance John 14:26	Reveals Jacob 5:20
Testify of Christ John 15:26, 1Cor 12:3; Mi. 10:5, 3N5:33, Jacob 5:18-20; DC19:3	Commissions/Authority/Empowers 1N3:187, Mi10:7,1N3:36
Guide to truth John 16:13	Directs Mi. 6:9; 1 Thes. 3:11
Warns Acts 16:6-7	Produces the fruits of the spirit Gal.5:22-23
Helps us to pray Rm 8:26	Gives precepts 2 N 12:39
Intercedes for us Rm 8:26	Calls us Acts 13:2, 1Sam.3
Testifies to us we are the children of God Rm 8:13-16	Gives peace, hope, and joy Rm 15:13
Reveals deep things of God 1 Cor. 2:10, 1N3:30	Manifests Jesus was crucified DC19:3a; 1N3:15
Opens the eyes of our understanding, en- lightens DC76:2, Eph. 1:18, 1Thes.1:6, Gal.5:22, Rm 14:17	Convincing power of H.G. 2N15:1
Revelation DC76:2; Eph. 1:17; Gal 1:12	Softens our hearts 1N1:48
Gives us the gifts of the spirit 1 Cor. 12:4-11; Mi. 10:8-9	See, hear, know things of God 1N3:24-26
	Enables us to do as Jesus did 2N13:15
	Fulfills the promise if ye enter in by the way ye shall receive 2N13:26

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To simplify the list of 80 SG so we can better grasp what it takes to achieve them, they are broken into 8 categories.

Groups 1-5 you notice increase in the number of spiritual gifts available to us, as we grow spiritually these are meant to be at the very core of our lives and activities. The SG grow as we use them

1. Gifts to Assure & Reassure:

2,5,12,15,19,20,27,28,39,54,56,68,74.

2. Gifts intended to bless and inspire everyday life:

2,3,5,12,15,19,20,27,28,35,39,44,45,52,54,56,68,74.

3. Gifts for beginner, individual experience & development:

2,3,4,5,12,15,19,20,27,28,32,33,35,39,44,45,52,54,56,68,71,74.

4. Gifts for those wanting more than a beginner:

1,2,3,4,5,11,12,15,18,19,20,22,23,25,27,28,32,33,35,39,44,45,52,54,56,68,71,74.

5. Gifts for deeper, more intense personal experience:

1,2,3,4,5,11,12,15,18,19,20,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,44,45,46,48,52,54,56,68,70,71,74.

6. Gifts intended only under the strong, powerful, impress of the Holy Spirit:

8,9,10,11.

7. Gifts to edify the saints, public gatherings:

8,9,10,11,62.

Group 8 is the ideal, the goal, the kingdom

8. Gifts for Priesthood:

1,2,4,5,6,7,8,15,16,17,18,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,,50,52,55,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,66,67,68,70,71,73,75,76,77,78,

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2. **Desire/strong desire** (DC 10:4a; Ps. 37:4,38:9; Col.3:2; Alma 16:151). Lets ask ourselves, is it because the Spiritual Gifts:

seem mysterious, beyond our comprehension? Are we afraid to try? Are we afraid of the unknown? Or are we afraid of the responsibility laid on us if we ask?

We must:

resolve that issue, increase our desire, change our habits and intentions.

If we don't have the **desire** to move closer to God then we are moving backward.

Strong desire: In order to nourish and guide this desire it is useful for us to:

- study carefully the total list of possible SG and blessings.
- Study, fast, pray (2N14:4, Enos 1:18, Alma 12:4; DC83:7a; Alma 12:5; DC85:21a; Mk11:26; 3N9:24; DC98:11b)
- Humble ourselves (E5:28, Alma 5:39, 10:6, Mos.2:20-21)
- Have faith in Christ (Alma 15:31, 21:134)
- Receive joy and consolation (Alma 15:17-19,67)
- Yield our hearts to God (Mos. 1:119-120)
- Become sanctified/purified (Mi. 10:30)

If you don't feel desires for the manifestation of the glory of God, it is not because you have drunk deeply and are satisfied. It is because you have nibbled so long at the table of the world. Your soul is stuffed with small things, and there is no room for the treat. John Piper.

3. **Look at the times the Lord has blessed you.** Examples: healings, answered prayers, enlightened scripture study, guidance in an area of special need, help through challenges etc.

Write it down!

4. **Look at our own personality characteristics** discerning what is the best fit.

- God has given everyone talents (DC46:5c) that are geared to our personalities.
- Recognized by *Patriarchal Blessing, Prophecy, counsel* of spiritually minded persons, and by *what draws us to a specific gift.*

Spiritual growth should not be a once-in-a-lifetime sort of drawing near to the Lord but, a increasing part of our personality. E. Curry

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5. **Seek prayerfully for guidance** as we read over the list of SG

- Concentrate on those SG of most interest from the list.
- Pick 1 or 2 to begin, that you feel you can develop, and work with all your being on these. Examples: inspired praying, inspired study, inspired poetry or hymn writing.
- Be **diligent** in seeking, we cant just “ask” without doing. The SG are dependent upon how serious we are. (Enos 1:14,18, 1N3:29-30; 2Pet.1:10). Make a concerted effort (Alma 16:149-173).
- Remember all SG are used for the glory of God and to benefit His people.
- Ask the Lord for guidance to those SG that best fit your personality, which make you a better blessing to His work.
- If needed seek council from spiritually minded people. Guidance can come through *a Special Blessing* given in a time of very great need and will come through the compassion, mercy, and grace of our Lord.

6. **Most gifts are potential**, they must be developed, **they just don't happen** one day.

Seek occasions to use that spiritual gift in:

- broadening our vision,
- understanding the mysteries of the kingdom,
- lifting meetings to a higher level,
- sacrificial service

Its not how good we are at that gift, its about doing. God uses the willing.

7. **Gifts are for those who use them:** intelligently and sacrificially. It depends on opportunities for service and needs about us: individual, our congregations, church as a whole, even the world about us. Examples: strengthening gift of love or faith.

Prayerfully look for opportunities to use the gifts given us. Parable of the Talents (Matt. 25:13-31).

- Expand our understanding of how a gift helps the kingdom, uplifts others and brings us to a higher spiritual level.
- When prompted to use a SG **obey** = this will provide Mal. 3:10-11. The more activities we are involved in where SG are used the more gifts we can experience.

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8. **Intention:** *The extent of your great Father's outreach toward you inevitably depends on the character of your outreach to Him.* Spirituality Study, E. Curry chapter 9 pg. 45.

What do we intend to do for:

- our branch,
- the church as a whole,
- the kingdom and
- the world

Will determine which gifts we are given, God knows all the thoughts and intents of our heart (Alma 12:110). They are given for the benefit of those who love the Lord (DC 46:4).

9. **All of us should maintain a very strong faith** in a Heavenly Father who does speak to us today,

- directly to us,
- in His own way and
- how He sees best. (DC85:18)

This enables us to break through those *reasons* we don't have the spiritual gifts.

Each of us are different but, He has promised He would *open the windows of heaven* (Malachi 4) if we have faith in His ability to do so. And *...for ye receive not until after the trial of your faith.* (Ether 5:7: Heb. 11; DC8:3). A **strong faith** requires obedience and action.

10. **Test the spirit.** To reiterate how to tell if the impress, gift, or experience is of the H.S., called *Discerning of Spirits* (1John 4: 1-2).

- Confusion is not of the Lord. See pg. #3 1b of these notes.
- Also by knowing the Word, having it written in our hearts we are not misled or deceived. (DC 46:3b-4b, 50:1-3, 1 Cor. 12:3).
- Remember 2 or 3 witnesses, if you are unsure of the communication being of the Holy Spirit ask for a witness (Ether 2:3; DC 5:3e; Deut. 17:6, Matt. 18:16), if needed seek council from spiritually minded people.

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11. Get all the facts:

- don't misinterpret or assume anything, make sure you have all the information the Holy Spirit is giving,
- ask for the interpretation and application.
- *Reason* with Holy Spirit (DC 50:4). This isn't telling God what we want, it's listening to what He wants and understanding how we can go about doing His will.

***The above list is not all inclusive, seek for guidance individually as to how you can obtain and use the SG our Father has intended for you.

A Few of the Promises

1. DC 70:3—Law of Stewardship applies to everyone, all who followed this would receive abundance: *which abundance is multiplied unto them through the **manifestations of the Spirit**, nevertheless in your temporal things you shall be equal, and this not grudgingly, **otherwise the abundance of the manifestations of the Spirit shall be withheld***
2. Gods Spirit in us = grace and closer we are to God. (Mos. 9:41, 48).
3. *And all Saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, ... shall **find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures**,...* (DC86:3c-d).

Points to remember

- SG are the Holy Spirit working through us (Acts 3:6-12) as we desire them (Ps.42:1).
- Most of the spiritual gifts and blessings come in our everyday living rather than coming to us in church services. Christians whose daily lives are alive with the Holy Spirit means the church is alive - a church that is alive with the Holy Spirit, means its members daily lives are also (Rm. 8:6; 2Cor.3:17; Gal.5:16; Eph.5:18-20).
- (Alma 216:15).
- Are willing to sacrifice all for Jesus' cause, holding back nothing, and be cleansed and sanctified = given garments of white. Without the Holy Spirit in our lives we will remain at ease in Zion. How do we obtain a white garment? By doing the things we said we would do when we took upon us the name of Jesus.
- **Lets get serious**, time is short, we need to be in tune with the Holy Spirit. (Ps. 63:1, Jer. 29:13, Isa 55:6; Ether 5:41; DC85:16, 22b).

If you want a deeper relationship with Jesus, feast on Him until you lose your appetite for anything this world offers. Onethingalone.com