

Rekindling the Gifts of the Spirit

Relevant Bible Verses: 2 Corinthians 1:14-15, 8:12, and 10:4-5 ; 1 Corinthians 12 ; 1 Peter 4:10 ; Matthew 21:21-22 and 25:15 ; Ephesians 3:20 and 4:11 ; Romans 12:6

Main Points: The Church is quiet in comparison to what it should be. We have all been given gifts of the Spirit by God, but we do not seek them out and activate them as we should. We must seek to activate our spiritual gifts, and trust God to use us within where we are called.

Message Notes:

- God's ways may not make sense to us; approaching a fight with the Spirit as our weapon does not make sense to us when our opponents approach a fight with a gun. However, we do not retaliate using the things of the world or in the carnal. God's ways are not the ways of the world, but *mighty* are his ways of pulling down strongholds. Our personal strongholds fall before God as we follow him in obedience.
- There is not *one person* in the body of Christ that God hasn't given a gift to. Our gifts are not an end-all, but God wants us to activate them, to fan them into flame.
- Jesus, for the Kingdom of Heaven, came to save the world and delivered his power and authority to the Church when he rose.
- He does not ask us to go beyond our measure. In fact, he wants us to stay within the talents and gifts he has given us, not to be jealous of the gifts of others.
- The Church is a battery: It needs charging. But often, we do not charge it as we do not pick up what he has given us. Busy lives, fear, lacking prayer, etc. leads us to fail in accepting what God has given. We lack trust that the Holy Spirit can use us.
- It doesn't matter what we think of ourselves, God goes above and beyond our limited thinking and ability. All we have to do is ask God to use us. We may not know what our gift is, but we can ask God to enlighten us, and we need to learn how the gifts operate so we can activate ours.
- We can get jealous and envious of other's ministries, thinking they are better, and attempt to replicate them but it only shuts us down. It is not the gift we have been given, we are trying to act outside of our *measure*, and as a result, we receive only frustration.
- No gift is insignificant. Every person has a role. The role of an electrician is useless without someone there to turn the lights on once they have done their work. Though the one who turns on the light may seem insignificant in relation to the one who did the all the work in wiring, their role is vital to the final result.
- Nobody is perfect, and we do not need to be, in order to be used by God. His gifts are irrevocable. Even when we feel that we lost ours, or we never had one,

they remain. God does not give up, he rejuvenates. We have not, because we ask not.

- ***How to apply to our lives:*** If you feel that you have failed in using your gift, that God has taken it away, listen for Jesus. Pray for your gift. Desire to use it. God will rejuvenate and answer you.
- Ask yourself; Am I sidetracked? Stifled by the cares of the world? If walking with God is seen as a crutch, then ask for two, because purpose in life is revealed through God's blessing.
- Serve God *first* and all other things will follow.
- There is power in the laying on of hands, in Chair ministry where the church gathers around an individual to give inspiration and positive feedback.
- Pursue knowledge of the gifts of God, of the three areas of *Inspiration, Revelatory, and Power.*
- ***Summary:*** Remember, all receive spiritual gifts to minister for the benefit of others. For the good of the body of Christ, ask God to use you. Fan into flame gifts through *prayer and supplication*
 - Seek to be used within the gift you have been given, not seeking after the gifts of others. You are sufficient in yourself and your own gift. No one is insufficient. No one is left out.
 - God's gifts are irrevocable. Though you may have thought them to be dead, they are still there to be rekindled if you only ask.
 - TRUST God. He can do exceedingly more than you can ever ask or think.

For Further Study:

- Look into the different types of spiritual giftings. Think about your own gifts and talents and seek to understand which gifting you fit within.
- Pray for your gifts to be kindled, and trust God to show you your ministry.