

## THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## PRECEPT

Acts 2:37-39

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Repent [change your old way of thinking, turn from your sinful ways, accept and follow Jesus as the Messiah] and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> This promise (of the Holy Spirit) is for you, your children, and for all who are far away—as many as the Lord our God invites."

## PROMISE

Once you trust Jesus with your life, you are complete by the Holy Spirit, but you are to ask for the continuous filling and empowering of the Holy Spirit in your life. A Spirit-filled life means a balanced life of the fruit and gifts of the Holy Spirit. He promises that if you walk with the Spirit, you will manifest the fruit and use the gifts.

**MINISTERIAL SPIRITUAL GIFTS.** Ephesians 4:11 says, "Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, and helpers." Ministry gifts are ways that God works with what believers do to serve others and meet their needs. It is how we minister the love, grace, and truth of God to others. To administer is to apply and bring into use.

**MOTIVATIONAL SPIRITUAL GIFTS.** Romans 12:6-8, 13 tells us, "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." V.13 "When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality." These motivational gifts are how the Spirit of Grace moves through us, motivating our words and actions. It is a filter given for our perspective, shaping how we relate to and serve others.

**MANIFESTATIONAL (SUPERNATURAL) SPIRITUAL GIFTS.** 1 Corinthians 12:7-10 says, "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still, another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said." These gifts are the ones people tend to sensationalize and, therefore, disqualify themselves from enjoying. In 1 Corinthians 12:7, it says "God gives to each of us, not just some." This means everyone, spiritual gifts are given to all of us so we can help each other. God can do everything, from healing to performing miracles. Spiritual gifts are available but should be practiced according to biblical principles. We believe in a biblically balanced use of our spiritual gifts.

These Spiritual gifts are given and not earned. They are not natural talents but are spiritual gifts. We are gifted at least one of these the moment you trust Jesus with your life as part of the promise of the Holy Spirit for you. We just need to open it and discover how we will use it for God's glory. The whole purpose of these gifts is for the benefit of others, to use our gift for the benefit of the church and the unchurch while manifesting the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our life.

## PRACTICE

1. **Promise.** Is it important that we pursue spiritual gifts? Why? Do you know what your spiritual gift is?

2. **Holy Spirit.** Is there anything that's hindering/stopping you from using your spiritual gifts for others? And how can we encourage and pray for you regarding this?

## PRAYER

## I. Members

- Pray for the spiritual maturity and growth of each of our members

## II. Disciples

- Thank God for calling us to follow Him as disciples. Pray for wisdom to walk in His ways.

## III. Community

- Pray for safety and may His presence and love be felt in our families and communities.

## IV. Family

- Pray that our homes be filled with the God's presence, peace, joy, unity and love.

## V. Joy

- We lift up those in need of God's touch. May they have comfort and restoration.

## VI. Provision

- Thank Jehovah-Jireh, the God who provides, the one that owns everything.

## VII. Love

- Pray that the body of Christ would faithfully show love to a hurting world in His name.