

Prayer Focus – The Gift of Faith

April, 2021

This month we will continue with the gifts of the Spirit and focus on the **gift of faith.** Last month we discussed **the Great Commission** and its command to teach the new disciples to obey all the commands He has given to us and as we observe them it produces a long and satisfying life. This month we are going to begin teaching on the **“The Power Gifts”** which include the **gift of faith**, the **gifts of healing** and the **working of miracles.** These spiritual gifts are secondary in appreciation and greatness to the **“The Revelation Gifts”**. Thegreatest of the power gifts is the **gift of faith**. This special faith ***supernaturally receives******what is impossible******for******any human to achieve on their own***. Our foundational scripture in 1 Corinthians 12:4,7 NLT/NKJV reads;

*There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. A spiritual gift is given to each of us* ***so we can help each other*.** 1 Corinthians 12:8-11 NKJV; *for to one is given the* ***word of wisdom*** *through the Spirit, to another the* ***word of knowledge*** *through the same Spirit, to another* ***faith*** *by the same Spirit, to another* ***gifts of healings*** *by the same Spirit, to another the* ***working of miracles,*** *to another* ***prophecy,*** *to another* ***discerning of spirits,*** *to another* ***different kinds of tongues,*** *to another the* ***interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.***

When discussing the **gift of faith**, we need to recognize that there are many types of faith. For instance,when a farmer plants a seed and believes that the seed will grow into the expected fruit or when a fisherman casts his line in the right place in a lake believing that he will catch a fish, these would be examples of *natural* *faith*. Another type of faith is a *saving* *faith* which is a spiritual faith that comes from hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the hearer receives and believes it (Romans 10:14-17 NKJV/TPT).An example of this was the jailer in Acts 16:30-34 NKJV. This *saving faith*is also how we receive the benefits or the promises of God; like healing, provision, deliverance, natural or supernatural protection. The same measure of this *saving faith* has been given to every born-again believer (Romans 12:3 NKJV). Then there is the *faith* named as a fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22 KJV, which is really *faithfulness*. This faith is a belief or conviction responding in obedience to the law of the Spirit of life (God’s Word). Galatians 5:16 NKJV reads “*I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”* Jesus’s life displayed a perfect example of the development of this fruit of the Spirit or we could say the character trait of *faithfulness*. No matter the pain or the cost that was involved, Jesus was faithful to follow the leading of the Spirit and fulfill the plan of the cross. Finally, let’s look at the **gift of faith.** This gift **is unlimited**, meaning God is the source of its energy. Those who operate in this special faith, the **gift of faith,** can believe God in such a way that God honors their word as His own, and miraculously brings to pass the desired result. One reason the church doesn’t see the **gift of faith** manifest more often is they don’t first operate in the *saving faith* they have received. When the church takes a step of operating the *saving faith*, they would find that at the end of that faith, it could potentially open a door for the **gift of faith** to take over. An example of the **gift of faith** in operation in the Old Testament was where Daniel was delivered from the lion’s den (Daniel 6:23 NKJV). The **gift of faith** was manifested by the Holy Spirit enabling Daniel to receive a miracle beyond the capacity of ordinary faith to receive.A New Testament example was when Jesus was asleep inthe back of the boat when the storm was raging (Mark 4:38 NKJV). Since the disciples lacked understanding of the power of the Holy Spirit working in Jesus’s life, they were fearful and awoke Jesus. Jesus responded by operating the gift of the **working of miracles** and stopped the storm immediately by speaking words of faith.

Please ***continue to pray*** for the manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Turn **the scriptures which speak to you** into prayers of faith and watch the change in you and things around you. To conclude we would like to share Lester Sumrall’s view that the **gift of faith** functions in all those whoare **“more than conquerors”** (Romans 8:37 NKJV). A conqueror is a person who meets another person of equal strength and knocks him out. A person who is **more than a conqueror** just **stands** and **says**, “Fall,” and down goes that other person! **You speak and God brings it to pass!** God does all the work through the anointing and the power of God within you. That is why we should **read** the **Word of God every day** **for faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God** **spoken out of our mouth** (2 Corinthians 4:13 NKJV, Romans 10:8 NKJV).

You’re More Than Conquerors,

*Scott and Jackie*

**SCRIPTURES as references and those TO PRAY**: Matthew 28:20 NLT; John 14:15,21 AMPC;Psalms 91:1,14-16 AMPC; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 NLT/NKJV; Romans 10:14-17 NKJV/TPT; Acts 16:25-34 NKJV; Romans 12:3 NKJV; Galatians 5:16-22 NKJV/TPT; Daniel 6:23 NKJV; Mark 4:38 NKJV; Romans 8:37 AMP; 2 Corinthians 4:13 NKJV; Romans 10:6 NKJV; James 1:17 AMP; Hebrew 2:4 TPT; 1 Corinthians 14:1,12; Ephesians 1:17-23 TPT; Ephesians 2:1,4-10 TPT; Ephesians 3:14-21 NKJV

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