## Be Filled with the Holy Spirit Part 06 The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

"3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness." (Romans 12:3-8 KJV)

Apostle Paul in speaking to the Romans about the spiritual gifts he told them and to us today not to think of themselves more highly than they ought to be that they needed to humble down, "3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (Romans 12:3 KJV) He mentioned to them and to us today that our bodies have different members with different functions; each with a specific office, "4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office." (Romans 12:4 KJV) then the same is in Christ, "5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." (Romans 12:5 KJV) that the body of Christ have many members as our physical bodies, and those many members who have different offices of functions composed the one body of Christ, and each member, even the smallest one has his importance in the body of Christ and cannot be excluded, or function independent of it without causing a defect in the body of Christ, "14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? 18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. 19 And if they were all one member, where were the body? 20 But now are they many members, yet but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. 22 Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: 23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. 24 For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked. 25 That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. 26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular." (1 Corinthians 12:14-27 KJV) \* So from this we can understand that each and every one of us should value himself and the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the office and ministry that is given to him or to her. \* Do not look down on yourself because you are not as others, but rather value and appreciate what God had given you and distinguish you from others by your gifts and ministries. \* The body of Christ is composed of many members and we cannot function independently from one another. \* The

varieties in the body of Christ with different gifts the purposes of them are to cover all the needed functions and the ministries. \* Otherwise if they are all the same then there will be no body. \* But now we are varieties and that is why we form one body. \* God had arranged the distribution of these gifts and offices as He pleased with and according to His will. \*You cannot say to others that there is no need of you because all are important to the body of Christ with the gifts they carry, especially those whom you think they are weak gifts but they are necessary, and we need to honor them and to honor whatever gift we think it is of less importance, for God had arranged us all in such a way and He had given more honor to the part that is lacking. \* So we need to work out to keep together all what God given to us of members with different gifts so there will be no divisions in the body of Christ. \* Instead we should care and appreciate one another and have concern for one another, that those who suffer we need to suffer and bear with them, and those who are honored to rejoice and be glad with them.

Now let us go back to Romans 12 and see the spiritual gifts and discuss them. "6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness." (Romans 12:6-8 KJV)

- 1. Prophecy, "whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith": If a believer's gift is prophesying, then he or she should use this gift in proportion to his or her faith. Prophecy, according to one's proportion of faith, is the ability to speak God's words, on God's behalf, to the people of God. In other words, the one who prophesies speaks on behalf of God. Prophecy is the only one which appears in all the three; Romans 12, Ephesians 4, and 1 Corinthians 12. Even in the Old Testament, definition concerning prophecy is given. Prophecy is not only telling or foretelling the future, but there is also forth-telling which is speaking forth the Word of God for the benefit of the people, declaring to them the whole will of God. Both are part of the prophetic ministry and gifting that God gives to His people. The gift of prophecy can also occur in the middle of preaching, while the preacher is giving the message God impressed on him a prophetic message that he declare to the congregation.
- 2. Ministry, "Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering": The word ministry can also means serving or helping. It comes from the same root word as 'deacon', literally meaning to wait on the table or to serve someone else. Spiritually, this gift would be the ability to give assistance or aid in any way that offers strength and encouragement to others. The gift of ministering, helping, serving is surely the one the body of Christ needs today and one of the largest areas too often left unnoticed when it comes to spiritual gifts. Some of the more showy gifts may receive more attention, but the body of Christ could not long survive without this marvelous gift of ministering or helps. At varying points of life, all have been recipients of this gift and know from experience just how valuable it is.
- 3. Teaching, "or he that teacheth, on teaching": Teaching is the ability to analyze and interpret God's truth and the ability to communicate that truth clearly. This important gift needs to be more recognized in the church for there is a real importance and need for the sound teaching in the church to minister to the members of the spiritual body, His church.

- **4.** Exhorting, "Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation": This spiritual gift translates into the ability to move people to action by the authority of God's Word or the truth that derives from His Word. This gift is connected to the preaching to encourage the hearers and move them to serve God and respond to His call. The word encouragement is another beautiful way to translate this gift.
- 5. Giving, "he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity": If one is blessed with this gift, Paul says, let it be done with simplicity. What a wonderful gift to contribute and distribute money to further the Kingdom of God or to assist those in need. Those with such gift they are happy to give to the church and contribute to the needs of others.
- 6. Ruling, "he that ruleth, with diligence": This gift is the ability to lead others and to manage the affairs of the church, and it should be done diligently. A related passage concerning this gift is given in the Book of 1 Timothy where elders are described as those who can manage the affairs of the church well, taking care of the spiritual and material business of the church, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." (1 Timothy 5:17 KJV)
- 7. Showing mercy, "he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness": Showing mercy is the ability to work joyfully with those whom the majority ignores. These would be those who are today in nursing homes, hospitals, asylums, prisons, even the shut-ins and the handicapped individuals who dwell in loneliness. These need mercy and cheerful ministry from the body of Christ.

Let us now tackle another passage that has to do more with the leadership in the body of Christ: "8 Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. 9 (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." (Ephesians 4:8-11 KJV) Paul speaks here of Christ's ascending up on high at His ascending to Heaven and gave gifts unto men, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." This is what is called the fivefold gifts of ministry within the church. He does so "12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:" (Ephesians 4:12-13 KJV) These gifts serve primarily the ministry and the spiritual nature of the church, preparing God's people to do works of service, to mature and grow in Christ. When that occurs, the body will not be swept about by every wind of doctrine, "14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: "(Ephesians 4:14-15 KJV) Therefore these fivefold gifts Of ministry for leadership are thus vitally important. The following is brief description for each one of them:

A. Apostles: Are the Apostles of Jesus who laid the foundation of the New Testament church. "19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles

and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (Ephesians 2:19-22 KJV) In addition to the twelve disciples of Jesus and Paul, there are other apostles mentioned in the New Testament. Paul mentions that Jesus was seen raised from the dead by the twelve and then later on by many of the apostles, Paul referred not only to the twelve in particular, but also to other groups. "5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God." (1 Corinthians 15:5-9 KJV) Another example is here: "Salute Andronicus and Junia, my kinsmen, and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me" (Romans 16:7 KJV) Not only does Paul call these two, most likely a man and his wife apostles, but he points out that they are well known among the apostles. Now the current disciples, who continue the ministry after the apostles of Jesus, are not apostles but are doing and continuing the apostles' ministry.

B. Prophets: Who declare the whole will of God, tell about the future, and what is going to happen to those who obey and to those who disobey. The office of prophet can describe a permanent position, similar to that of Agabus with a sharp prophecy about the future as we can read in the following prophecy of Agabus for paul which took place: "10 And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. 11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles." (Acts 21:10-11 KJV) The gift of prophecy must be exercised with great caution and care. Some have been misled because a professed prophet gave them an idea which was supposed to have come from God. Therefore we need to guard our members with love and be more careful about false prophets and false prophecies. Paul in his instruction about prophesying he put measures to let the gift of prophecy under proper control as he gave the following directive: "29 Let the prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. 30 If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. 31 For ye may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. 32 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. 33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." (1 Corinthians 14:29-33 KJV) The church should check the prophecies if they are coming from God or not. The church should confirm to the church those who are the prophets of God and listen to them, and they will be the one to check and endorse what had come from God and what had not come. If prophecy comes from God should go along the Scripture, it goes along the needs of the church and the people of God, and should be conform to God's will, that at the end the people got comforted and peace prevail.

C. Evangelists: \* Who bring the message of salvation to those who did not yet hear the message about Jesus and exhort them to repent and accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, and His work on the cross as the only way to be saved. \* This gift is the ability to present Jesus Christ in such a way that hearers are pressed to respond in faith to the gospel. \* The evangelist has the ability to share God's Word forcefully and powerfully either to small or large groups of people. \* God's Holy Spirit give this gift and bless certain individuals with this gift of evangelism to share the gospel with the lost, and you can see them easily reaching out to

people, because of a heart warmed by the Holy Spirit and overwhelmed with concern for the lost. Such people are keys to spreading the gospel into various places.

D. Pastors: \* Who lead the sheep, feeding the flock with God's Word and makes them to go through green pasture and guide them in their life and protect them and bring them away from dangers. \* This gift is the ability to shepherd or nurture others in truth and to care for the spiritual needs of others. Gifted pastors do this through teaching, preaching, modeling and giving good example of attitude and behavior. Those so gifted have patience, a tender and kind touch when it comes to relationships with others, and they inspire confidence within the body of Christ.

E. Teachers: \* Who precisely gives the meaning and the application of God's Word in the Bible. \* This gift is the ability to proclaim the truth of the Word in a manner that builds up the body of Christ through clarity of presentation.

Now we need to take these five gifts and make them fit and applicable in the life of the church. The church composed of members who interact with one another. And the smallest possible unit in the church who interact with one another is the family. And from this point of view the family would have these five spiritual gifts and implement them in their family life.

- A. Apostles: The family, in particular the parents with the help of the church that they are part of will implement the foundation of the apostles in their family
- B. Prophets: The parents will function as prophets to declare to their children the whole will of God. To their obedient children they will declare to them prosperity and good future, but to their disobedient children they will declare failure and deterioration unless they will repent.
- C. Evangelists: The parents will function as evangelists to declare the message of salvation to their children who did not yet hear the message about Jesus and exhort them to repent and accept Jesus as Lord and Savior and His work on the cross as the only way for them to be saved.
- D. Pastors: The parents will lead their children into green pasture, feeding them daily with the Word of God through daily Bible reading inside the family, and making them go through green pasture by guiding them in their life and protect them and bring them away from dangers.
- E. Teachers: Parents with the help of the church should precisely give to their children the meaning and the application of God's Word in the Bible. They should be strict to their children and discipline them so that God's Word in full will be applied in their lives.

It appears that these five gifts are offered to the church as functions. These seem to be gifts carved into the body of Christ for the benefit of all. To put it another way, God enables some to be these five gifts. One must conclude from this the importance of all these leadership gifts together. One must not focus on any one to the exclusion of the other, and it is quite obvious in many cases that a single individual may be gifted both to teach and to preach, or to pastor and to evangelize. For example Peter Jesus called him to be a fisher of men, an evangelist, then apostle, then a pastor to feed His sheep. Each congregation should focus to do and work with those five gifts. The congregation that focuses entirely on evangelism cannot long maintain health without some follow-up and efforts to teach. These gifts are meant to work together, in cooperation with one another, because the body of Christ needs this plurality of leadership.

Also the congregation should work to help the pastor because pastors cannot do everything otherwise will burn out attempting to do everything, because they need time for themselves and for their families. The church needs others, properly gifted, to carry some of the load. Developing a proper theology of the church can be helpful with this task. While one may not find prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers appearing in every small congregation, it still remains true that the people of God the body of Christ are to do works of service within the fellowship. It is the pastor's primary responsibility, the administrative team or the leadership team, to prepare or equip the saints for the work of ministry: "12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:" (Ephesians 4:12-13 KJV)

\* As a church we need to see those of our members who are committed their lives to serve God and recognize their gifts and their potentials and proceed to train them and equip them and mentor them to be an effective workers involved in preaching ministry, in teaching or involved in any other ministry gifts. \* According to the Scripture, every member is a minister or helper or servant, but not everyone can equip and train and mentor others to do the ministry and that is our responsibility as church leaders to equip the saints.

The important point here is one's ability to see and understand that the plurality of this leadership ministry can move into and through the congregations, allowing them to be equipped by the Holy Spirit for the service in the Kingdom of God. That is how individuals and the body of Christ grow. Each individual member must exercise those spiritual gifts that have been given so the church can be what it really should be in the world today.

My Dear and Beloved: Let us come now to the Lord and commit ourselves to the teaching that we received in this message about the various spiritual gifts and the rule of the fivefold gifts ministry to equip the saints and raise workers to serve the various congregations of the church. Let us work for unity and work together and in one direction so that we will be able to reach more people with the gospel, making new disciples and training more able workers to reach the lost and so the work of God will be multiplied.

## Let us pray ....

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your word that made me understand the spiritual gifts in a better way. Lord thank you for all the spiritual gifts that you gave to my Brothers and Sisters to go on and serve you and thank you for the fivefold gifts ministry that you gave to your church to equip the saints for service.

Come now to God and confess and renounce all your sins. Confess and renounce your lack of faith and the doubts in your mind. Confess and renounce all your stubbornness, disobedience and delay obedience. Confess and renounce all the works of the flesh in your life; telling lies, stealing, fights, anger, rage, hatred, revenge, un-forgiveness, grudge and bitterness, division, pride, selfishness, lack of concern toward others, envy, jealousy, murder, lust, immoralities, greed, injustice, corruption, worldliness, and your love for money and material things. Confess and renounce your yoke with non believers, and in bondage with the Media, News and games. Confess and renounce your lack of reading God's Word and life of prayers.

Confess and renounce your bad stewardship, your bad example and your non willingness to serve God and suffer for Him. Lord forgive me, I repent of the following sins

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Lord once again I commit myself to serve you and live my life for you. Lord helps me to develop and use my spiritual gifts that you gave me for the benefit of others in the body of Christ. Lord give me the grace and the strength to do that, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, and committed their lives once again to serve you and use the spiritual gifts that you gave them in the ministries of your church. Lord use them to do your work and ministry. Lord help us and give us the grace, the love and wisdom to use all these gifts for your glory and for your church to grow. Lord protect and provide their needs so they will continue to go and serve you and preach your Word and reach the lost.

Lord, bless us as your church. Lord we commit ourselves to do our part in recognizing those who have the spiritual gifts and their ministries and equip them and mentor them so they will be fruitful servants of yours. Lord I pray for more people to be water baptized and more disciples to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Lord we ask you once again to refill us with the Holy Spirit and give us the spiritual gifts; Word of wisdom, Word of knowledge, gift of faith, gift of healings, gift of working miracles, gift of giving, showing mercy, gifts of helps, leadership, administration, gift of exhorters, pasturing, teaching, prophesying, evangelizing, and we ask you to enable us to do the apostolic ministry. Lord lead us to go on and evangelize, and make new disciples and train new workers to go and plant more Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.' Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Be Filled with the Holy Spirit Part 06. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Romans 12:3-8. 1 Corinthians 12:14-27. Romans 12:3-8. 1 Timothy 5:17. Ephesians 4:8-15. Ephesians 2:19-22. 1 Corinthians 15:5-9. Romans 16:7. Acts 21:10-11. 1 Corinthians 14:29-33

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
www.churchofgoduae.com
Email: <a href="mailto:thebread1@gmail.com">thebread1@gmail.com</a>
Mobile Tel #: <a href="mailto:00971551902647">00971551902647</a>

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