

Holy Spirit Reveals – I Corinthians 12:1-11

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Holy Spirit

1. Holy Spirit's primary purpose is to _____ Jesus
2. The _____ is in complete unity even though they function differently

Holy Spirit will never say or do anything that isn't in line with Father's character, nature, and His Word

3. The Gifts of the Spirit are always to be used to benefit _____

The Gifts that Reveal

- **The word of _____** - A revelation of wisdom usually about the present or future beyond natural human wisdom that enables a person to know what to do or say to someone else.
- **The word of _____** - A revelation of information usually about the present or past for a person, group, or situation that could not have been known by any natural means.
- _____ **of spirits** - A person's ability to perceive what type of spirit is in operation in a given situation.

Questions for family devos, triads, & House Church discussion

1. What spiritual gifts myths have you believed at one time or another in your life? How did the Holy Spirit change your mind on those things?
2. Have you seen the gifts of the Holy Spirit used in an incorrect way? How have you benefited from the proper use of the gifts?
3. Does the Holy Spirit use you in the word of knowledge, word of wisdom, or discerning of spirits? What have you learned that you can apply to the use of these gifts?

Fill in the blank answers: reveal, Trinity, others, wisdom, knowledge, Discerning

Next Steps

- 1.** Acknowledge and embrace from the outset that you can do nothing to force God's hand. Whether or not he reveals something to you for the edification of another is entirely dependent on his will, not yours. If God chooses not to bless you with this gift, rest assured he has other, equally important, plans for you and how to use you in the life of the church.
- 2.** Make this a specific and consistent focus of your prayers. Cry out to God daily that he would bless you with this gifting (1 Cor. 14:1).
- 3.** Monitor your heart's motivation: be certain that your longing for this sort of gifting is your love for the welfare of others and not the notoriety or attention that such a gift might bring to you.
- 4.** Learn from others who are already operating in revelatory gifts. Identify who they are, seek them out, ask them questions, listen to their story, learn from their mistakes, and be encouraged by their success. In a word, hang out with people of similar passion and who have a track record of accuracy in this gifting.
- 5.** Learn the many ways in which God communicates: dreams, visions, impressions, internal audible voice, symbols, sympathetic pains, providential occurrences, etc. Don't be surprised or put off if what you hear seems weird, but don't be weird just for the sake of being weird!
- 6.** Immerse yourself in God's Word. Meditate on who God is, what he's like, and how he communicated to others in biblical history. This will help you discern whether or not it is God who is speaking. He will never reveal anything to anyone that is inconsistent with his character or his ways.
- 7.** Be attentive to the Spirit of God. Listen! Watch! Write down what you think may be the word of the Spirit. Be attentive to the revelatory language that God might choose to utilize for you. He doesn't always make himself known to everyone in the same way.
- 8.** If you think God has revealed something to you for the edification of another, first share it in confidence with trusted and mature Christian friends who can help you process what has happened. There is wisdom in the counsel of community.
- 9.** Be willing to risk being wrong. Step out in faith and humility: "I may have entirely missed this, but I think God may have put something on my heart for you. If this doesn't make any sense, you won't hurt my feelings by telling me so." Resist the temptation to say: "Thus saith the Lord" or "This is the will of God for your life!"
- 10.** Certain things to avoid: a) be careful about sharing negative or critical words (1 Cor. 14:3); b) don't assume that every random thought that passes through your brain is from God; c) don't rely on revelatory gifts to make routine decisions in life.