

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025 EDITION

UNDERSTANDING THE COLLECTION OF STANDING THE COL



The Foundation: Tongues and Corporate Anointing:

One cannot fully engage with the gifts of the Spirit without understanding the role of praying in tongues. While personal prayer builds individual intimacy with God, it is in the corporate gathering of believers that a unique anointing is released—a spiritual wind that accelerates growth and awakening. Scripture urges us, "Do not forsake the gathering of the brethren." Why? Because within this corporate atmosphere, we are empowered to ascend spiritual levels more rapidly than we could alone. Tongues, the most accessible of all gifts, often unlocks other spiritual dimensions. It is a divine gateway to deeper encounters.

Three Pillars of Spiritual Maturity:

Spiritual growth manifests in three distinct but interconnected ways:

- The Fruit of the Spirit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
- The Gifts of the Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12, including healing, prophecy, miracles, and more.
- The Dimensions of the Spirit the deeper workings and mysterious expressions of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Paul's warning in 1 Corinthians 12:1 is still relevant today: "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant." Ignorance keeps believers spiritually ineffective, but revelation and activation bring power.

Barriers to Spiritual Gifts in the Church:

Why aren't more believers walking in the gifts? Several roadblocks exist:

- Doctrinal resistance in some denominations.
- Time constraints that prioritize structure over spiritual formation.
- Fear and control from leaders uncomfortable with spontaneous spiritual expressions.
- Misconceptions of hierarchy, limiting gifts to pastors or senior ministers.
- Desire for orderliness, which can suppress the move of the Spirit.

These challenges have left many believers passive—attending church without actively partnering with the Holy Spirit.

Activations, Impartation, and Divine Election:

Some gifts require activation—especially ministry gifts like those of the fivefold offices (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher). These are often stirred through impartation by someone who already carries that mantle.

Others are embedded in one's spiritual DNA from birth—this is divine election. But whether through activation or calling, the Word encourages us to "covet earnestly the best gifts." Holy desire invites divine deposits.



Understanding Prophecy: Gift vs. Office

It's important to distinguish between the gift of prophecy and the office of the prophet.

- All believers can prophesy for edification.
- The office, however, comes with authority, accuracy, and additional gifts like discernment and wisdom. It also requires deeper consecration.

Without teaching and maturity, prophecy can become vulnerable to spiritual manipulation. As seen in Acts 16:16–34, not all accurate spiritual insights come from the Holy Spirit. Some are demonic imitations. We must remain discerning.

Guardrails for Walking in the Gifts

To walk safely and powerfully in the Spirit:

- Test every spirit (1 John 4:1)
- Stay rooted in Scripture
- Maintain a strong prayer life
- Submit to trusted spiritual leadership
- Never elevate the gift above the Giver

Growing in Public, Staying Pure

As spiritual gifts begin to bear fruit and draw public attention, remain grounded:

- Stay submitted to authority.
- Surround yourself with honest, wise counsel.
- Be accountable-especially with money.
- Guard your heart from pride.
- Prioritize your private devotion over your public platform.

Why Some Churches Experience More Gifts

Certain ministries witness more spiritual manifestations because of their spiritual heritage and hunger. But remember, manifestation is not proof of approval. As Jesus said, "By their fruit, you shall know them."

Final Encouragement

You don't have to be a prophet or pastor to walk in spiritual gifts. You just have to be willing, obedient, and hungry. If you choose to walk in the Spirit, both the fruit and the gifts will naturally follow. This is your spiritual inheritance—receive it with humility, grow in it with responsibility, and release it with boldness.

Let this be the season where we, as a body of believers, rediscover the gifts, embrace the Spirit, and impact the world—not by might, not by power, but by His Spirit.





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