

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 16:13

TAPE NUMBER WNX334 APRIL 17, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“CHURCH GROWTH – 101” – PART 5

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN TODAY’S CHURCH

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

The Gifts / Holy Spirit / Church Growth / Unity

INTRODUCTION

to the text

I Samuel 16:13

“The Person and the Work of the Holy Spirit in the Lives of the Believers.”

If you were to give a title to a book
that recorded such things, it would be called the
Book of Acts!

Acts 1:1-4

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, 3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. 4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;

Ephesians 4:1-14

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech **you to walk worthy of the calling** with which you were called, **2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, 3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." 9 (Now this, "He ascended"-- what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,** 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

you to **walk worthy** of the calling...

with all **lowliness** and **gentleness**, with **longsuffering**,
bearing with one another **in love**...

endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit...

for the **equipping** of the saints for the **work** of ministry...

for the **edifying** of the body of Christ...

An Edified Church is a Healthy Church

14 ...that we (result) should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

The Exercising of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Test a Church / A Pastor / The Congregates

THE CHURCH

MEANING: DOES THE CHURCH BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT AS A PERSON OR ARE THEY THE HINDERED BY A DENOMINATIONAL BIAS?

A PASTOR

MEANING DOES THE PASTOR KNOW WHAT THE WORD OF GOD SAYS ABOUT THE PRESENCES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH?

THE CONGREGATION

MEANING: WILL THE PEOPLE LET GOD BE GOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WORD OF GOD?

1 Corinthians 12:1-9

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

FIND OUT WHERE GOD IS MOVING

THEN Place yourself in HIS path of being used by God

SPIRITUAL INVESTMENTS

Matthew 6:19-21

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Ephesians 4:11

And He Himself gave **some** to be apostles, **some** prophets, **some** evangelists, and **some** pastors and teachers

The Gift of Evangelist

The Word Evangel is Root in the Word;

Good News = Gospel

An Evangelists is One who announces the Evangel. That act of Evangelizing is called Evangelism.

If you have the Gift of Evangelism - reaching Souls for Jesus is your main Passion.

But not all who Evangelize have the gift of Evangelism! Every Believer will be called upon to confess Christ, tell another about Jesus, give the Gospel to another...

2 Timothy 4:5

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions,
do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

THE GIFT OF EVANGELISM

1.) *It's not given to everyone – but to some*

How can I know if I have the Gift of Evangelism

a.) *You will be concerned for their souls*

It has been called a burden / a deep concern
...are you concerned for their soul?

b.) You will want them to know about Jesus

If you had one chance to talk to them
– you'd give them Jesus

Mark 6:34

And seeing a great multitude Jesus was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things.

c.) You will desire to tell them yourself

you will "risk it" so that you can know for sure,
that they know

1 Corinthians 9:16

For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!

...to tell them yourself

Philip is the Example

Acts 21:8

"...Philip the evangelist,"

Acts 8:26-38

Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. 27 So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, 28 was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides

me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth. 33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." 34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

PERSONAL APPLICATION OF THE PASSAGE

We all will be interested in reaching others
Via effort / or money / or resources / or influences

THE GIFT OF EVANGELISM

2.) *it's a Gifting by God – not a talent or human ability*

a.) *Our human frailty - will be magnified*

weakness / inability / illness / intimidation

Human Talent – ~~A Holy Ghost Salesman~~

b.) *Our human desire to control - fades*

The More You Yield to God's Leading
The less in control you'll become...

c.) *Our human reason – gives way to God's reason*

Being open to spontaneous leading

- letting God the Holy Spirit take over the conversation
 - trusting God to fill your heart, mind and mouth

PREACHING THE TRUE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

The gospel of Christ
Redemption / Forgiveness / Justification / Salvation

The Gift of Evangelism Doesn't Guarantee Conversions
– *Only Decisions*

THE GIFT OF EVANGELISM

3.) *It Advances the Kingdom of Christ*

a.) *Church growth happens (in numbers)*

people respond to the gospel
and are converted

John 14:12

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Acts 8:12

But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

Acts 8:6

And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

b.) Church ministry expands (in opportunity)

Acts 8:7-8

For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city.

GOD USES HIS GIFTS TO ENLARGE THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

Acts 6:1-2

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:40-42

And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation." 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

c.) Church depth deepens (in vision)

Philip was Already Preaching in the Midst of a
Spiritual Awakening,
Why Leave it?

Acts 8:26-27

Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. 27 So he arose and went....

Philip is Stepping Out in Faith -

While You and I Get Some Insight into What God is Going to do.

27 ...And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch

of great authority under Candace the queen of Ethiopia, it is he who had charge over all her treasury, he had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 28 and as he was returning, sitting in his chariot, he was reading the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Why - in the Authorship of the Bible, did the Holy Spirit mention to us that the Ethiopian was Reading the Bible?

Acts 8:29-38

Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." 30 So Philip **ran** to him (he placed himself in the path), **and heard** (listened to what was going on around him) him reading the prophet Isaiah, and **said**, (spoke out in faith) "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (taadaah !!!) And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him (confirmation) . 32 The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth. 33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." 34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" 35 Then Philip

opened his **mouth**, (faith) *and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.* 36 **Now as they** went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" 37 Then Philip said, "**If you believe with all your heart**, you may." And he answered and said, "**I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**" 38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

Vision

Romans 15:20-21

20 And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation, 21 but as it is written: "To whom He was not announced, they shall see; and those who have not heard shall understand."

Romans 10:10-15

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." 14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Regarding All The Gifts...

Remember, The use of the Gifts are not Infallible.
But rather involve a step of faith by the believer

Let's Pray for the Baptism
of the Holy Spirit...
...and Gift of Evangelism

End