

## MANIFESTATION GIFTS - PART 3 DISCERNMENT, TONGUES & INTERPRETATION

### **Manifestation Gifts:** | 1 Corinthians 12:10-11

10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

### GIFT DESCRIPTIONS

#### **Discernment / Distinguishing between spirits**

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations.

#### **Tongues & Interpretation**

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately.

### ONENESS - NOT SAMENESS; UNITY & DIVERSITY OF GIFTS

#### **1 Corinthians 12:11-14**

11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. 12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. 14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

### NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES OF EACH GIFT IN ACTION

#### **Read the following stories:**

- **Gift of Discernment:** Acts 16:16-18
- **Gift of Tongues w/Interpretation:** Acts 19:1-7

# LET'S OBSERVE THE TEXT...

## Gift of Discernment - Observe Acts 16:16-18

- A slave girl had a spirit by which she predicted the future, showing that not all supernatural power comes from God.
- The girl's words were technically true. She called Paul and his team "servants of the Most High God" but her spirit's source was demonic, not divine.
- Paul allowed this to go on for several days, indicating that discernment sometimes develops through observation and the Holy Spirit's inner prompting, not instant reaction.
- The Holy Spirit enabled Paul to distinguish the spirit behind her words, revealing that discernment deals with motives and spiritual sources, not appearances.
- Once Paul discerned it, he acted in spiritual authority, commanding the spirit to leave "in the name of Jesus Christ." The spirit left immediately, proof of true authority from the Holy Spirit.
- The deliverance caused conflict with the girl's owners, showing that discernment often exposes hidden systems of exploitation or manipulation.
- The gift protected the mission's credibility. Without discernment, the team might have accepted demonic affirmation and confused the message of Christ.



## CONCORDANCE



### Discernment

(diakrisis)

Strong's G1253

Found in 1 Corinthians 12:10



### Tongues (glóssa)

Strong's G1100

Found in 1 Corinthians 12:10



### Interpretation

(herméneia)

Strong's G2058

Found in 1 Corinthians 12:10

## Gift of Tongues w/Interpretation - Observe Acts 19:1-7

- When Paul asked, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" it revealed his expectation that the Spirit's presence would produce visible evidence in a believer's life.
- After hearing the full gospel, the men were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, showing repentance and faith must precede empowerment.
- When Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, demonstrating the biblical pattern of impartation through Spirit-led authority.
- They spoke in tongues and prophesied, showing that tongues were not random speech but a Spirit-given expression that flowed into prophetic understanding...essentially, interpretation.
- Tongues here served as a sign of spiritual infilling, confirming that the same power poured out at Pentecost was now extended to Gentiles in Ephesus.
- The immediate shift from tongues to prophecy reveals that interpretation can manifest through prophecy, where the Spirit reveals the meaning or message behind the utterance.
- The event marked a turning point in the expansion of the gospel, proving that the gifts of the Spirit were not limited to the apostles or Jerusalem but available to every believer.
- The unity of tongues and interpretation (via prophecy) underscores the Spirit's purpose: not confusion, but communication so that what begins in heaven can be understood on earth.



## ONLINE RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

### Observe 1 Corinthians 12:11 & 1 Corinthians 12:12

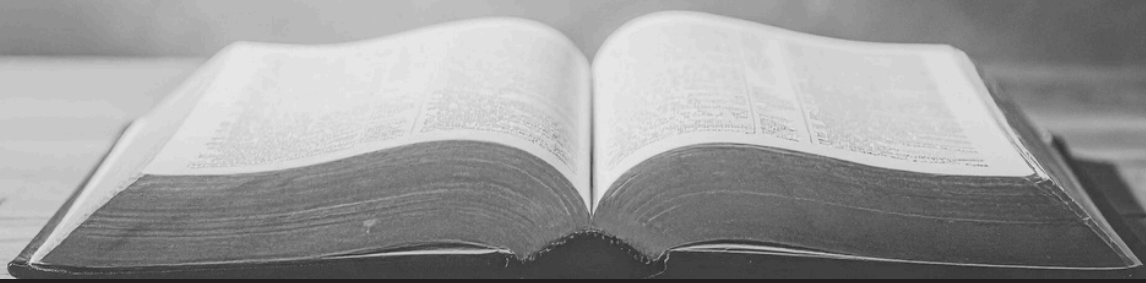
- Go to BibleHub.com and do a search for 1 Corinthians 12:11 in the "Enter Reference or Keyword" box and then click on the magnifying glass.
- Once it loads, click on the button titled "Study"
  - Read the **Study Bible** section.
  - Do the same for 1 Corinthians 12:12



## LET'S INTERPRET...

- What do you believe all of these verses mean?
- What is God speaking to you personally through this study?
- Read a trusted commentary and compare to your interpretation.





## LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

The gifts of the Holy Spirit reveal the many ways God works through His people. In 1 Corinthians 12:10-11, Paul describes gifts like discernment, tongues, and interpretation, showing that they all come from the same Spirit who gives them as He chooses. The point is not comparison but cooperation. Each believer plays a part, like the members of one body working together. The Spirit's purpose is to build unity within diversity, where every gift contributes to the health and mission of the Church. These verses remind us that no one has all the gifts, but together, we display the fullness of Christ's presence in the world.

The story of Paul & the slave girl in Acts 16:16-18 gives us a powerful look at the gift of discernment in real time. Paul & his team were followed by a girl who had a spirit that enabled her to predict the future. Her words sounded right, but something underneath did not align with the Spirit of God. After several days of watching & listening, the Holy Spirit made it clear that her message came from a demonic source. Paul cast the spirit out in the name of Jesus, freeing the girl & protecting the integrity of the gospel. Discernment helps believers separate what looks spiritual from what is truly of God. It teaches us to depend on the Spirit's wisdom rather than surface impressions. Truth spoken with motives that do not lead people back to the Father, or toward healing, restoration, or encouragement, is counterfeit. Discernment is not speculation fueled by skepticism or gossip, but the Spirit's ability to reveal the influence at work behind the words. Not everyone will recognize it immediately, but the Spirit helps us see what others may miss.

In Acts 19:1-7, we see another expression of the Spirit through tongues and interpretation. When Paul met a group of disciples in Ephesus, he realized they had not yet received the Holy Spirit. After baptizing them in the name of Jesus, he laid hands on them, and they began to speak in tongues and prophesy. The tongues were evidence of the Spirit's presence, while the prophecy revealed the meaning of what was spoken, a form of interpretation. This shows that God empowers His people not just to experience His presence but to express His message clearly. The same Spirit that moved in Jerusalem at Pentecost was now moving among Gentiles in Ephesus, proving that God's gifts are for everyone who believes.

Paul reinforces this truth in 1 Corinthians 12:11-14, where he compares the Church to a human body. Though it has many parts, it is still one body, unified by one Spirit. Each believer is intentionally gifted according to the Spirit's purpose. The phrase "as He determines" reminds us that the Spirit knows what the Church needs better than we do. Some are gifted to teach, some to serve, some to discern, some to speak in tongues all are necessary. Unity does not mean sameness. It means harmony, where differences work together under the leadership of Christ.

When you step back and look at the whole picture, these scriptures call believers to both humility and boldness. The Spirit's gifts are not trophies but tools, given to strengthen the Church and reach the world. Discernment keeps us aligned with truth. Tongues and interpretation help us connect heaven's language to earth's understanding. Each gift points back to Jesus, the head of the body, who empowers His people to carry His presence wherever they go. The takeaway is simple but powerful: your gift matters, but its greatest purpose is revealed when it serves others in love and unity.

# APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## GIFT OF DISCERNMENT - ACTS 16:16-18

### Application Question:

When have you sensed that something seemed “off”, impure motives even though it appeared good or spiritual, and how did you respond?

### Deeper Question:

What does this story teach you about developing spiritual sensitivity without becoming judgmental or suspicious of others?

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## GIFT OF TONGUES AND INTERPRETATION - ACTS 19:1-7

### Application Question:

How open are you to letting the Holy Spirit express Himself through you in prayer or worship, even when you do not fully understand how it works?

### Deeper Question:

What does this passage reveal about the connection between spiritual empowerment and clear communication of God’s truth?

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## UNITY AND DIVERSITY OF GIFTS - 1 CORINTHIANS 12:11-14

### Application Question:

How does understanding that your spiritual gift is given “as He determines” affect the way you serve in the body of Christ?

### Deeper Question:

What might true unity look like in a church or ministry where everyone fully embraces both their unique gift and their shared purpose?

## CLOSING PRAYER

Holy Spirit, we invite You to fill us with Your wisdom and power. Teach us to discern what is true and what is false, so that we can walk in purity and protect the message of Christ. Give us the gift of tongues to pray and worship beyond the limits of our understanding, and grant us the gift of interpretation so that what is spoken in the Spirit may bring comfort, and encouragement to others. Help us use these gifts not for recognition, but for Your glory and the strengthening of Your Church. We ask this in Jesus name we pray, amen.



## WHAT'S AHEAD...

### *Next Session*

Motivational Gifts - Part 3

### *Homework*

Read Romans 12