

# Manifestation Gifts

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## Word of Knowledge

- Definition: A word of knowledge is the supernatural revelation of facts about a person or situation which the Spirit wishes to be made known concerning that person or situation.
- Traits:
  - o This gift enables one to see beneath the surface to the heart of a situation, sometimes even revealing hidden secrets.
  - o The “word” may come in the form of an inner voice, an intuition, a vision, or a dream.
  - o Those with this gift may have a special ability to ascertain God’s will for specific situations.
- Cautions:
  - o Because this gift is intuitive in nature, the one who thinks he/she has received a word of knowledge must be careful not to confuse it with his/her own feelings.
  - o Every “word” must be judged by *the Word*.
  - o Because the purpose of every gift is to edify, the one who speaks a word must be motivated by love and concern for the person’s well-being.
- Biblical Examples:
  - o Jesus and the Samaritan Woman
  - o Peter and Ananias and Sapphira
  - o Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

## Word of Wisdom

- Definition: A word of wisdom is a message that brings to light the wisdom of God as it relates to a particular situation.
- Traits:
  - o The exercise of this gift often follows a word of knowledge or a prophetic word and gives specific direction on how to *apply* it. Application is the key to this gift.
  - o Though it may look like human wisdom, this gift makes one wise beyond human capabilities.
  - o Those with this gift may not be especially talkative, but when they do speak, their words usually speak volumes.
  - o Those with this gift have a knack for knowing just what to say and when to say it.
- Cautions:
  - o It is easy to confuse one’s own opinion or feelings on a matter with a word of wisdom.
  - o See cautions for previous gift.
- Biblical Examples:
  - o The way Jesus responded to trick questions from the Pharisees
  - o James and the Jerusalem Counsel (Acts 15:13ff)

## Faith

- Definition: While every Christian has a measure of faith, those who operate in the gift of faith have an unusual confidence in God’s ability and desire to act in a specific situation.

- Traits:
  - o Because prayer and faith are so intimately linked together, persons with this gift are often great prayer warriors.
  - o Those with the gift of faith can sometimes “pray down” a miracle even when the needy person has no faith.
  - o Persons with this gift are not easily discouraged. Theirs is a simple, childlike faith that enables them to trust God completely.
- Cautions:
  - o The person with the gift of faith must be careful not to assume he or she has infallible understanding of God’s will.
  - o Those with the gift of faith must guard against putting more emphasis on faith itself than on the God in whom their faith rests.
- Biblical Examples:
  - o Shadrack, Meshack, Abednigo
  - o Woman with a hemorrhage
  - o The “Four Friends” who lowered their friend into the house where Jesus was teaching.

## Healing

- Definition: The gift of healing enables one to serve either as an instrument of God’s healing power or to receive healing for various kinds of ills.
- Traits:
  - o The plural form indicates various kinds of healing, such as physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual.
  - o This gift often works in tandem with the gifts of faith, miracles, and word of knowledge.
  - o Those with this gift are often inspired by a vision, though, or impression that God is present and desire to heal.
- Cautions:
  - o Those with the gift of healing must always remember that they are merely channels through which God heals.
  - o While scripture does link faith and healing, faith does not always result in immediate or complete healing.
  - o Those with this gift must be careful not to limit the manner or timing in which God may heal.
- Biblical Examples:
  - o Jesus
  - o Peter and Aeneas and Tabitha in Acts 9

## Miracles

- Definition: The gift of miracles is the special ability which God gives to serve as intermediaries through whom God chooses to perform mighty acts that alter the ordinary course of nature.
- Traits:
  - o The plural indicates various kinds of miracles.
  - o The difference between miracles and faith seems to be intention. Those with the gift of miracles rarely anticipates the miracle. He or she is simply stirred by the Holy Spirit and obedience brings forth the miracle.
  - o Signs and wonders are part of God’s program for extending His Kingdom. They can substantiate or confirm the power of the spoken gospel message.
- Cautions:

- Miracles should always glorify God, not the person through the miracle occurs.
- When miracles occur, those involved must be careful not to put so much emphasis on the miracle that the emphasis on God Himself is not lost
- Biblical Examples:
  - Healings and raising the dead.
  - Peter escape from prison (Acts 12)
  - Paul and the snakebite on Malta.

## Discernment

- Definition: The gift of discernment is the special ability to determine if the motivating spirit behind certain words or deeds is the Holy Spirit, the flesh, or a demonic spirit.
- Traits:
  - Those with the gift of discernment have a keen sensitivity to evil or false spirits.
  - Those with this gift can't always explain how they know something, but feel it deeply inside.
- Cautions:
  - Those with this gift must guard against being impulsive in their judgment.
  - Because emotions can so easily mask as intuition, those with this gift must always test their intuition with prayer and God's Word.
- Biblical Examples:
  - Jesus and Peter (Mark 8: Get thee behind me...)
  - Peter and Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8)

## Tongues/Interpretation

- Definition: The gift of tongues is the special ability to speak in a language that is unknown to the speaker. The gift of interpretation enables one to interpret for the body of Christ a prayer given in tongues.
- Traits:
  - Two kinds of tongues:
    - A foreign language unknown to the speaker.
    - A heavenly language.
  - Praying in tongues is meant to edify the one who prays. Specifically, the one praying generally experiences deep intimacy with God resulting in great joy, peace, or encouragement.
  - The interpretation may come as an ability to supernaturally understand the language or it may come as a general impression or vision.
  - The interpretation may be given to the one who gave the message or someone else in the congregation.
- Cautions:
  - There is no scriptural support for the doctrine that tongues is **the** visible evidence of the filling of the Holy Spirit.
  - In order not to confuse unbelievers or new Christians, use of the gift of tongues is carefully regulated in public worship, including the need for interpretation.
- Biblical Examples:
  - Other earthly language: Pentecost: Acts 2
  - Prayer language: 1 Cor. 14:14-15, Eph. 6:18