

*WitnessKit Bible Study:
Bible Doctrines As a
System of Thought*

*Class 10 The Holy
Spirit's Work and
Gifts and Callings*

We can understand God better

God's
work
through
His Spirit
today

by recognizing the Holy Spirit
in this world and in our lives.

1. **The work of the Holy Spirit in this world**
2. The gifts from the Holy Spirit
3. The callings from the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is God.

We can know about the Holy Spirit through His work as described in the Bible.

He was involved in the creation of the earth—Genesis 1:2. He is involved in creation of living things—Psalm 104:30. He is involved in the creation of individual human beings—Psalm 139, Job 33:4. He gives us life. He produces spiritual birth in those who are born again—John 3:8.

He sanctifies people, making them holy—2Thessalonians 2:13.

The Holy Spirit is God.

He makes people productive with the attitudes and character traits we need the most—the fruits of the Holy Spirit—love, joy, peace, patient endurance, kindness, goodness, gentleness, self-control—Galatians 5:22-23. The same passage says He helps us avoid the opposing actions of the fleshly nature.

He is the Source of goodness in our lives.

The Holy Spirit is God.

He empowers people to do creative actions—
Exodus 28 and 31:1-6.

The Epistles (or Letters) of the New Testament tell us He is involved in preserving marriages (1Thessalonians 4:1-8, 1 Peter 3) and helping people to marry the right person and causing people to treat each other right within marriage. He guides people on the earth, all who are willing to pay attention. He helps us know the principles we need when we need them.

The work of the Holy Spirit in this world

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit actively empowered people for specific tasks. In Exodus 31:1-5, He empowered Bezalel for the task of creating beautifully crafted items for the Tabernacle.

He empowered the judges to lead armies in battle and to fight valiantly, according to various passages in Judges and in 1 Samuel.

He spoke through King David and gave him His word. 2Peter 1:21 tells us the Holy Spirit empowered the authors of the Bible to write His message for us.

The work of the Holy Spirit in this world

During the Old Testament time, The Holy Spirit would empower someone to do a task, but that often was a temporary matter.

However, the Old Testament promised a change.

Messiah is described in Isaiah 11:2, 42:1, and 61:1. The Spirit of the LORD rests on Messiah. God the Father puts His Spirit on Messiah—because God has anointed Messiah to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the broken-hearted, and to proclaim liberty to

The work of the Holy Spirit in this world



captives and freedom to prisoners, to proclaim both the favorable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of God, to comfort those who mourn in Zion, to replace their mourning with gladness.

The power of the Holy Spirit in Messiah's life is permanent.

The Holy Spirit's attitude of proclaiming freedom to captives is seen in Ezekiel.

The work of the Holy Spirit in this world

In Ezekiel 2:1-2, and chapter 3:12, 24, what posture does the Holy Spirit demand from Ezekiel, who was taken captive and probably forced to grovel before his captors?

The Spirit required Ezekiel to stand on his feet so that He could talk to him. God does not demand groveling. He loves us. Repentance and groveling are not the same thing.

The work of the Holy Spirit in this world

In Joel 2:28-29, the New Covenant promises the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all individuals who will receive salvation.

Isaiah chapter 32, Ezekiel 36:24-28, Ezekiel 39:25-29, and Isaiah 44:1-8 all promise the Holy Spirit to Israel.

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2. **The gifts from the Holy
Spirit**
3. The callings from the Holy
Spirit

Everyone who receives the Holy Spirit receives gifts from Him.

His gifts are categories of His power that He makes available in our lives for the increase of God's Kingdom.

- His power is a gift.
- The jobs He gives us to do are also GIFTS from Him.
- The results of His work through us are also gifts from Him. He takes our efforts and applies them to other lives.

We do not have the wisdom to do that. He does.

What does Romans 12:6 say we are supposed to do with the gifts He gives us?

We are supposed to exercise them accordingly.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

2 Timothy 1:6 and 4:5 tell Timothy to “*kindle afresh the gift of God,*” and fulfill his ministry.

“Do the work of an evangelist.”

“Be sober in all things and endure hardship”— don’t let fear of persecution keep you from using your gifts.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:7 says each person who receive the Holy Spirit receives a gift from Him.

Hebrews 2:4 says God bears witness about salvation through the spiritual gifts He gives to those who find Him.

The next passage, Romans 12, gives 7 categories of Spiritual gifts and instructions for their proper use.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

Romans 12:3-21 (ESV)

³ For by the **grace** given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Grace 5485

χάρις—
grace,
kindness,
blessing,
favor,

Gifts 5486

charisma
gifts of
grace,
free gifts

6 Having *gifts* that differ according to the grace given to us, LET US USE THEM:

if prophecy, in proportion to our faith;

7 if service, in our serving;

the one who teaches, in his teaching;

Prophecy 4394 προφητεία—*prediction* (scriptural or other) :- prophecy, proclaiming, speaking for God—

Faith 4102 πίστις—assurance, belief, faith, fidelity.—

Service 1248 διακονία—*attendance* (as a servant, etc.); *aid*,: minister, office, relief, service

Teaching 1319, 1321 διδασκαλία—*instruction* (the function or the information) :- doctrine, learning, teaching.—

⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation;

Exhortation 3874 παράκλησις— comfort, consolation, exhortation, entreaty.—

counsel

the one who contributes, in generosity;

Contributes 3330 μεταδίδωμι— to *give over, share, or impart*.—

the one who leads, with zeal;

Leads 4291b προϊίστημι— to *stand before*, or to **preside**, or to *practise* :- maintain, be over, rule.—

Zeal 4710 σπουδή— “*speed*”, *despatch*, eagerness, *earnestness*, (earnest) care, diligence, forwardness, haste.—

the one who does acts of mercy, with *cheerfulness*.

Mercy 1653 ἐλεέω— have compassion, pity, or mercy (on).—

Cheerfulness 2432 : ἰλαρότης— (hilaros— cheerfulness)

Let love be genuine. **Abhor** what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection.

Outdo one another in showing honor.

¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

¹³ **Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.**

Love (12:9) 26 αγαπη
affection, benevolence—
as defined in I Corinthians
chapter 13

Abhor 655 ἀποστύγέω— to
detest utterly :- abhor.—

Prophecy 4394 proclaiming,

Service 1248 διακονία—

Teaching 1319, 1321
διδασκαλία—

Exhortation 3874.—counsel

Contributes 3330 give,

Hospitality 5381 φιλοξενία—
hospitableness :- entertain
strangers, hospitality

⁹14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Leads 4291b

προΐστημι— to *preside*,

15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Mercy 1653

ἐλεέω— have compassion

16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight.

The advice overcomes a human weakness in the use of each gift, as well as being advice for all of us.

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil,
but give thought to do what is
honorable in the sight of all.

¹⁸ If possible, so far as it
depends on you, live
peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved,
never avenge yourselves, but
leave it to the wrath of God,
for it is written, “Vengeance
is mine, I will repay, says the
Lord.”

Peaceably 1514

εἰρηνεύω— to *be*
(*act*) *peaceful* —

Avenge 1556

ἐκδικέω— to
vindicate,
retaliate, *punish*
:—

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

So we can say that one overarching purpose in Spiritual gifts is to overcome evil with good.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

- I Corinthians chapters 12 through 14 focus on ministries and their results as gifts from the Holy Spirit.
- I Corinthians 12:1 **Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed.** ² You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

- ⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.
- ⁷ To EACH is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Ministries as gifts from the Holy Spirit

⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of *knowledge* according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as He wills.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. **14** For the

body does not consist of one member but of many. **15** If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

Ministries as gifts from the Holy Spirit

- ...²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then *miracles*, then gifts of healing, helping, *administrating*, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

The more excellent way is to act with God's love, as described in 1 Corinthians chapter 13. No spiritual gift is helpful if love is absent.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- Chapter 14 Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy.
² For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters *mysteries* in the Spirit.
- ³ On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and *consolation*.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- ⁴ The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church.
- ⁵ Now I want you all to speak in tongues, but even more to prophesy.
- The one who prophesies is **greater** than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be built up.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

⁶ Now, brothers, if I come to you speaking in tongues, how will I benefit you unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or teaching? ⁷ If even lifeless instruments, such as the flute or the harp, do not give distinct notes, how will anyone know what is played? ⁸ And if the bugle gives an indistinct sound, who will get ready for battle? ⁹ So with yourselves, if with your tongue you utter speech that is not intelligible, how will anyone know what is said? For you will be speaking into the air.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

¹⁰ There are doubtless many different languages in the world, and none is without meaning, ¹¹ but if I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be a foreigner to the speaker and the speaker a foreigner to me. ¹² So with yourselves, since you are eager for manifestations of the Spirit, **strive to excel in building up the church. ¹³ Therefore, one who speaks in a tongue should pray for the power to interpret. ¹⁴ For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays but my mind is unfruitful.**

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- ¹⁵ What am I to do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit, but I will sing with my mind also.
- ¹⁶ Otherwise, if you give thanks with your spirit, how can anyone in the position of an outsider say “Amen” to your thanksgiving when he does not know what you are saying? ¹⁷ For you may be giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not being built up. ¹⁸ I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. ¹⁹ Nevertheless, in church I would rather speak five words with my mind in order to instruct others, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- ²⁰ Brothers, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature. ²¹ In the Law it is written, “By people of strange tongues and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord.” ²² Thus tongues are a sign not for believers but for unbelievers, while prophecy is a sign not for unbelievers but for believers.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- ²³ If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? ²⁴ But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, ²⁵ the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- **26** What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. **Let all things be done for building up.** **27** If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. **28** But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. **29** Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others **weigh** what is said. **30** If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

³¹ For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, ³² and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. ³³ **For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.** As in all the churches of the saints, ³⁴ the women should keep silent in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be in submission, as the Law also says. ³⁵ If there is anything they desire to learn, let them ask their husbands at home. For it is **shameful** for a woman to speak in church.

Regarding the word shameful—

The Corinthian church was in a location where pagan religious practices involving women **were shameful**. Corinth was infamous all over the Roman Empire for those practices. So as a matter of particular instructions for that time and place, the church was **required** to distance itself from such matters.

The early church experienced violent persecution and had to shine as a light in a dark world. Being visibly distinct from worldly-religious hedonism was necessary.

Regarding the word shameful—

Elsewhere in the New Testament, women are treated as equals with men before God, even as the leadership of husbands was required in marriage.

There are differences of roles that men and women hold in society and in the church. This passage focuses on propriety in church—the general assembly.

The Bible is realistic as well as idealistic. It's principles fit all cultures and all times.

Regarding the word shameful—



In earlier generations, there were large differences in education level between men and women. Families were large, and women had an automatic ministry in their own families.

All the spiritual gifts are a help in the family circle and in the neighborhood.

Masculine leadership does not exclude feminine spiritual gifts and responsibilities.

The official church ministry during persecution was a courageous risk.

Other passages in the New Testament

- Other passages encourage older women to teach younger women. The Apostle Paul also urges Timothy not to allow his youth to keep him from ministering to others who are older.
- This is an area where people can disagree about which directions are universals and which are particulars for a given time and place. The Holy Spirit is able to guide the churches in applying the principles.
- In Corinth, this was a very important matter.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit: Avoiding Selfishness in Their Use

- 36** Or was it from you that the word of God came? Or are you the only ones it has reached? (Here Paul emphasizes his authority as an apostle.)
- 37** If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord. **38** If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.
- 39** So, my brothers, earnestly desire to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. **40** But all things should be done decently and in order. (ESV)

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

- What is the theme of Romans 12? *That we should use our gifts according to the proportion of our faith, in order to overcome evil with good.*
- What is the theme of these chapters in 1 Corinthians?
- *That we should use our gifts for the purpose of building the church, in love, especially seeking that we might proclaim the gospel so that people can understand and have eternal life.*

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

What are the offices that are spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:28-31? Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Workers of Miracles, Workers of healings, Helps, Administrations, Languages. Note that the Holy Spirit decides who does which office.

In the present day, these categories would probably be described to include Missionaries, Preachers and Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers, Prayer Leaders, Counselors, Deacons who serve, Administrators, Communicators or Translators. The categories could include Caregivers as well.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

The offices are not meant to restrict Christian work to a narrow range of professional job classifications. Rather the emphasis is that the Holy Spirit empowers individuals for a range of ministries. The way a person serves God is a gift from God. **Responsibilities** are gifts.

Churches have an obligation to seek God's leading when selecting individuals for specific jobs. The Holy Spirit calls individuals to specific jobs. The jobs are a gift from Him.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

The early church grew fast. Everyone empowered by the Holy Spirit was involved in church growth. The Roman Empire spent about 300 years trying to make the church be silent. The Roman Empire fell and the church survived.

One of the key concepts in the New Testament is that Christ is the head of the church—that the church needs to function under His leadership and delegation of tasks.

The gifts from the Holy Spirit

- What is the more excellent way Paul lists in chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians?
- The more excellent way is, with love from God filling all that we do, to fulfill one's gifts for the growth of the church.
- What spiritual gift does Paul encourage us to seek in chapter 14, and why?
- He encourages people to seek the gift of prophecy—the supernatural ability to speak God's truth to others. We should ask the Holy Spirit to make us speakers of truth.

How is that *Prophecy* gift defined?

- 1 Corinthians 14:3 says “the one who *prophesies* speaks to people for their *upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.*”
- They were instructed to strive for that gift in order to build up the church.
- So we should ask the Holy Spirit to make us Speakers of Truth for building up and encouraging and consoling others and for the growth of the church.

Some of the Gifts were also Callings.

- The New Testament reports Apostleship as a calling—and this can be seen in some of the Greetings in the beginnings of New Testament Epistles such as Romans 1:1, and Galatians 1:1.
- Ephesians 1:7-12 reports the following jobs as callings: apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. It is right to ordain men into these ministries as callings, and to seek God's direction in all such processes.

Having said that,

It is also true that we all have callings from God—specific goals and directions for living that transcend ordinary decision-making.

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Romans 8:27-30

- ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*. ²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the **called** according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined **to be conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also **called**; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified. Romans 8:27-30 (NKJV)



We are called by God

*to be conformed to the image of
His Son.*

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 5:1-5¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

We are called to be justified by faith, and to have access by faith into grace, and to stand in hope of the Glory of God

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 5:1-5¹

³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations,

knowing that tribulation produces perseverance;

⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

⁵ **Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us (NKJV)**

We are called to GLORY in tribulations

Because tribulation produces character and hope. Hope does not disappoint!

Because of the love of God poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit!

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 7:6

6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter. (NKJV)

We are called to serve God in the spirit of the law, in the newness of the Spirit, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 8:5⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. (NKJV)

We are called to set our minds upon the things of the Spirit.

We are called to **LIVE** according to the Spirit.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 14:12-17¹² So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

¹³ Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in *our* brother's way.

¹⁴ I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that *there is* nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him *it is* unclean.

We are called to resolve to do what is right—

Not only in the obvious things—but in matters that are important to another person. This includes matters such as food and drink that are not laws in the New Testament, but that have an influence on others.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Romans 14:12-17¹⁵ Yet if your brother is grieved because of *your* food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died. ¹⁶ Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; ¹⁷ for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Romans 14:10-17 (NKJV)

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:16-18¹⁶ I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. (NKJV)

We are called to walk in the Spirit—to be led by the Holy Spirit moment by moment.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Galatians 6:8⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. (NKJV)

We are called to sow to the Spirit by investing our time and talents in Spiritual matters—knowing that such an investment will produce fruitfulness—everlasting life for ourselves and others.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:3-4

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;

- Eph 4:30 ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (NKJV)

We are called to keep the unity of the Spirit, and the hope of our calling.

We are called to avoid grieving the Holy Spirit.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 5:18 ¹⁸ And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,
(NKJV)

Ephesians 6:17-20 ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,

We are called to be filled with the Spirit.

We are called to take up the sword of the Spirit—the word of God—and to pray in the Spirit.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. Ephesians 6:17-20 (NKJV)

To pray in the Spirit specifically for opportunities boldly to make known the good news of salvation. For **COURAGE** to speak up! Even if persecution follows.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Philippians 2:1-4¹ Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.³ *Let* nothing *be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.
(NKJV)

We are called to look out for the interests of others.

We are called to esteem others.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 3:7-9⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: *"Today, if you will hear His voice, ⁸ Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹ Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Heb 3:7-9 (NKJV)*

We are called to avoid hardening our hearts when we notice the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

We are called to keep on having and exercising faith.

The callings from the Holy Spirit

- Revelation 2:7,11,17, and 29, and 3:6,13,and 22
- ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." ' Rev 2:7 (NKJV)
- ¹¹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death." ' Rev 2:11 (NKJV)

The callings from the Holy Spirit

- ¹⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives *it*. " ' Revelation 2:17 (NKJV)
- ²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' Revelation 2:29 (NKJV)

We are called to hear and to overcome!

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

□ Revelation 2:1-7

Directions to church members of a church with endurance but which had become dull from persecution and dealing with hedonists.

1. Go back to first principles and actions.
2. Repent and do the deeds you did at first—loving God, loving people, evangelism.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

- Revelation 2:8-11

Directions for members of a church going through persecution and poverty, including imprisonment and suffering to the death.

- Be faithful even to the death.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

□ Revelation 2:12-17

Directions for members of a church that lost someone, killed by persecution, and has hedonists putting stumbling blocks before others and calling for compromise with the pagan world:

Repent of the compromise. Don't allow the evil.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

□ Revelation 2:18-29

Directions for a church allowing a hedonist to teach.

□ Hold fast to the truth you have. Stand for what is right. Do not follow an evil leader.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: hear and overcome

- ⁶ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' Revelation 3:1-6 (NKJV)

Directions for members of a dying church:

- Wake up and strengthen the things that remain!
- Complete your deeds in the sight of God.
- Remember what you have received and heard and keep it and repent.
- Be worthy to walk with Jesus in white garments.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

- Revelation 3:7-13¹³ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' (NKJV)

Directions for members of a church that keeps God's word while being persecuted.

God gives an open door which no one can shut.

- Do not deny Jesus' name.
- Hold fast to what you have.

The callings from the Holy Spirit: Hear and Overcome!

- Revelation 3:14-22
 - **22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' " Rev 3:22 (NKJV)**
- Directions to a proud church that thinks it needs nothing.
- Repent!
 - Open the door of your life to Jesus!

Romans 8:1-2

- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Micah 7:18

- ¹⁸ Who *is* a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage?
- He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights *in* mercy. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea. (NKJV)

Homework

In 3 sets

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- We can know about the Holy Spirit through His work as described in the Bible. Read Genesis 1:1-5, Job 33:4, Psalm 104:30, and John 3:3-8. Describe the different parts of creation the Holy Spirit is involved in.
- Read Genesis 6:3, Malachi 2:14-15, and 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8. What work is the Holy Spirit doing in these verses?
- Read Numbers 11:16-30, and Numbers 27:15-19. What does the Holy Spirit empower people to do in these passages?
- Read Judges 3:9-10, 6:33-35, 14:19, 15:14-20, 1 Samuel 11:6-13, and 1 Samuel 16:13. What did God's Holy Spirit accomplish in these lives?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- Read 2 Samuel 23:2. What did the Holy Spirit do in King David's life?
- What did King David ask that the Holy Spirit would do for him in Psalm 143:10?
- In Isaiah 11:2, 42:1, and 61:1, how are Messiah and the Holy Spirit described?
- Read Isaiah chapter 32 regarding Messiah's kingdom. What does verse 15 indicate God will do for His people during that time? How does this compare to God's promise in Ezekiel 36:24-28? How does it compare to Ezekiel 39:25-29?
- What does God promise for Israel in Isaiah 44:1-8, and especially verse 3?
- In Isaiah 63:10 what grieves the Holy Spirit?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- In Ezekiel 2:1-2, and chapter 3:12, 24, what posture does the Holy Spirit demand from Ezekiel, who was taken captive and probably forced to grovel before his captors?
- In Ezekiel 3:14, 8:3, 11:24, and 43:5, what does the Holy Spirit do, and why?
- In Ezekiel 11:5, what does the Holy Spirit do?
- What does Joel 2:28-29 promise for all mankind after Messiah is in the midst of Israel?
- What does the Holy Spirit empower Micah to do, in Micah 3:8?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- In Haggai 2:4-5, what does God tell Zerubbabel to do and not do because His Spirit is abiding in their midst?
- Who is Zerubbabel supposed to depend upon in Zechariah 4:6?
- What did God send by the Holy Spirit as reported in Zechariah 7:12?
- In Zechariah 12:10, how is the Holy Spirit described?
- As mentioned before, all of us pierced our Messiah—because He died on the cross for the sins of each person on earth. He laid down His life for each of us.
- Luke 1:15 and Luke 1:41 describe an amazing thing about John the Baptist. What is it?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- What did John the Baptist's father, in Luke 1:67, do when he was filled with the Holy Spirit?
- What did Simeon do and say when the Holy Spirit was upon him, in Luke 2:25-32?
- Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:7-11, and Luke 3:21-22, and John 1:26-34 report the Presence of the Trinity at Jesus' baptism. God the Father spoke audibly. The Holy Spirit was present in the form of a dove. Who did God help to recognize Jesus as Messiah through the visible form of the Dove?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- Who led Jesus into the desert to go through temptation by the devil, according to Matthew 4:1?
- This reaffirms that it is not a sin to be tempted. God has a plan even in the difficulties we experience.
- What does the Holy Spirit do for those who are persecuted, in Matthew 10:19-20 and Mark 13:11 and Luke 12:12?
- How was that fulfilled in Acts 4:8-14?
- In Matthew 22:43, Jesus asked “How does the Spirit call Him Lord?” referring to the Psalm 110 of David. What does Jesus imply about the inspiration for that Psalm in these verses, and also in Mark 12:36?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- In Luke 3:16-17 what is the alternative to being baptized with the Holy Spirit, and what does it mean?
- In Luke 11:13, what kind of gift is the Holy Spirit?
- What does the Holy Spirit do in John 6:63?
- What does the Holy Spirit do according to John 14:17 and 26 and John 15:26 and John 16:13-14?
- Read Acts 1:3-8, and Acts 2. How was the promise in Acts chapter 1 fulfilled in Acts chapter 2?
- How was that promise fulfilled in Acts 4:31?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- To whom does God give the Holy Spirit, in Acts 5:32?
- Read Galatians 3:2-9 and 14. What does faith have to do with that?
- How does Galatians 4:4-6 explain that?
- In Acts 8:5-24 we see a transition period in the early church, where the receiving of the Holy Spirit became visible among the Samaritans. We also see confusion on the part of Simon, the Sorcerer, who got baptized in water and then wanted the power to bestow God's Spirit on others.

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- When the passage speaks of the gall of bitterness and the bondage of iniquity, it is talking about **idolatry** as in Deuteronomy 29:17-18. Apparently Simon had not really given up his life in the **occult**, but was trying to add Christianity to it. That does not work. He was seeking power for his own personal glory, and that was probably his original motivation into the occult, too.
- What do verses 21-22 say Simon needed to do?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- What did the Holy Spirit tell Phillip to do in Acts 8:29?
- What did the Holy Spirit do in Acts 9:17-20 and verse 31?
- What did the Holy Spirit do in Acts 10:19-47?
- What did that prove to the early church, in Acts 11:1-18?
- What did the Holy Spirit do in Acts 13:2-4?
- What did the Holy Spirit require in the way of dietary laws for the Gentiles, according to Acts 15:28-19?
- What did the Holy Spirit do in Acts 16:6-7?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- What does the Holy Spirit do for us in Romans 8:2-16?
- What does the power of the Holy Spirit enable us to do in Romans 15:13 and verse 30?
- What does He do for those who serve God, as described in Romans 15:16?
- What does He do for those who speak for God, in 1 Corinthians 2:4-5?
- What does He enable us to know, according to 1 Corinthians 2:10-16?
- What kinds of things does the Holy Spirit enable people to overcome, according to 1 Corinthians 6:9-11?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- What does the Holy Spirit do for those who receive Him, in 2 Corinthians 1:22 and in 2 Corinthians 3:3-6?
- What does He do for us in 2 Corinthians 3:16-18?
- What does He give us in 2 Corinthians 13:14?
- What does the Holy Spirit do for us in Ephesians 1:13, 2:18, and 2:22?
- What does the Holy Spirit do for us in Ephesians 3:16?

Homework Class 10 Set 1

- What does Titus 3:5 say about the Holy Spirit?
- What kind of work does the Holy Spirit do according to 1 Peter 1:2 and 1:11-12 and 4:14?
- What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the writing of the Bible according to 2 Peter 1:21?
- Can we know if we have the Holy Spirit in our lives, according to 1 John 3:24 and 5:6-8?

Homework Class 10 Set 2

- What does Romans 12:6 say we are supposed to do with the gifts He gives us?
- What does 2 Timothy 1:6 and 4:5 tell Timothy to do?
- Look at the slides which cover Romans chapter 12 on spiritual gifts and define important words from those chapters. Make a list of the spiritual gifts in Romans chapter 12, and highlight any definitions that you find helpful for thinking about those gifts.

Homework Class 10 Set 2

- Who does 1 Corinthians 12:7 say receives spiritual gifts?
- What does God reveal through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to Hebrews 2:4?
- What are the offices that are spiritual gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:28-31?
- What is the more excellent way Paul lists in chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians?
- What spiritual gift does Paul encourage us to seek in chapter 14, and why? How is that gift defined?

Homework Class 10 Set 3

- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Romans 5:1-5, and how does He enable us to do that?
- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Romans 7:6?
- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Romans 8:5?
- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Romans 14:10-17?

Homework Class 10 Set 3

- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Galatians 5:16-26 and what are the results?
- What does the Holy Spirit call us to do in Galatians 6:8, and what is the result?
- What demands does the Holy Spirit make in Ephesians 4:3-4 and 4:30?
- What are the commands in Ephesians 5:18?

Homework Class 10 Set 3

- What is the sword of the Spirit, and what are we to do with it in Ephesians 6:17-20?
- What demand does the fellowship of the Holy Spirit make upon us in Philippians 2:1-4?
- What does the Holy Spirit want us to do, according to Hebrews 3:7?
- What does the Holy Spirit want church members to do in Revelation chapters 2 and 3?

Homework Class 10 Set 3

- Personalize this homework by making a list of the things you are called to do. “I am called by the Holy Spirit to do these things:”