

## Session 3

### *The Spiritual Gifts*

1 Corinthians 12: 4-7

#### **Four Positions Regarding The Power Gifts of The Spirit**

1. Cessationist:

2. Pentecostal

3. Charismatic

4. Doesn't really have a name

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts [charismata], but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service [diakonia], but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities [energema], but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*  
1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-7

#### **Definition of Spiritual Gifts**

*"A spiritual gift is Jesus pursuing His mission through the members of His church."*  
Wayne Grudem, Bible Doctrine, p396

*"Spiritual gifts are God going public among his people."* Sam Storms, The Beginner's Guide To Spiritual Gifts

## **Six Misconceptions**

1. Only pastors and mature stable believers have the power gifts.

2. All the gifts you will ever get – you got at the point of your conversion.

3. Gifts serve as proof that God loves me and his presence and favour are with me.

4. If people abuse spiritual gifts, they should cease to use spiritual gifts.

5. Once you use a spiritual gift, you can always use it.

6. Those with more spectacular gifts are more spiritual.

## **The Gift of Prophecy**

1 Corinthians 14:1-5

Wayne Grudem says that examining New Testament teaching on the gift of prophecy, it should not be defined as *“predicting the future”* or *“proclaiming a powerful word from the Lord”* or *“powerful preaching”* but rather as *“telling something that God has spontaneously brought to mind.”*

(Grudem, Systematic Theology, p 669)

## **The Benefits of Prophecy**

1. Prophecy can bring disclosure of sins (1 Corinthians 14:25)
2. It would speak to the needs of a person’s heart (1 Corinthians 14:3)
3. It could also predict the future (Acts 11:28; 21:11)
4. It provides anyone to participate in the church, not just those gifted in the gift of teaching and preaching (1 Corinthians 14:5)