## NOTES

# FIRM FOUNDATIONS

## Week 4 | Life In The Spirit

#### PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who leads us, empowers us, and fills us with Your presence. Thank You for the spiritual gifts You have given to each of us so that we can serve, love, and glorify You. Open our hearts today to understand more about life in the Spirit and how we can walk in Your power daily. In Jesus' name, Amen.



# OPENING QUESTION

If you could have any superpower for a day, what would it be and why?

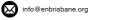


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WORD

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.

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. 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.

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 (ESV)

## REFLECTION

The Holy Spirit is not an abstract force but the very presence of God living within us, guiding and empowering us to live as followers of Jesus. Paul reminds the Corinthian church that spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit for the common good—they are not about individual status but about serving the body of Christ. In Ephesians 5:18, we are encouraged to "be filled with the Spirit," which implies an ongoing dependence on the Spirit rather than a one-time event. Romans 8:14 reminds us that "all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God." Living in the Spirit means living a life that reflects Christ in our everyday decisions, relationships, and mission.

Spiritual gifts are given to believers to strengthen the church and point people to Jesus. Some may experience gifts that seem more visible, like healing or prophecy, while others operate in gifts like wisdom or faith—each is valuable and needed. John Stott states, "The Holy Spirit is not given for our enjoyment but for our employment"—our gifts are meant to be used! Gordon Fee emphasizes that life in the Spirit is marked by love and service rather than competition or hierarchy. In a world increasingly marked by self-promotion, Spirit-led believers are called to humility and unity.

Here are the spiritual gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:

- Word of Wisdom Supernatural wisdom to bring God's perspective to situations.
- Word of Knowledge Insight into a situation that could not be known naturally.
- Faith Unshakable trust in God beyond ordinary belief.
- **Healing** God's supernatural restoration of health.
- Miracles God's power displayed in extraordinary ways.
- **Prophecy** Speaking God's message of truth to encourage, comfort and build up others.
- Distinguishing between Spirits The ability to discern spiritual influences.
- **Tongues** Speaking in an unknown heavenly language as a form of prayer or message.
- Interpretation of Tongues Understanding and explaining a message given in tongues.

Each believer has a unique role in the body of Christ. The challenge in 2025 is to live Spirit-led lives in a digital, fast-paced world where distractions and self-reliance often replace dependence on God. Yet, as we embrace the Holy Spirit's leading, we will see transformation in our churches, workplaces, and communities.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Do you allow the Holy Spirit to lead you in your decision making in your every day life? How?

2 How have you seen spiritual gifts in action—either in your own life or in others?

3 The passage says gifts are given "for the common good." How does this change the way we think about them?

4 What is one step you can take this week to invite the Holy Spirit to work more in your life?

### **Closing Prayer**

Jesus, we recognize that You are Lord, and we surrender our lives to You completely. Thank You for the Holy Spirit, who empowers, guides, and fills us. Help us to live Spirit-led lives, walking in Your power and using the gifts You have given us to bless others. We pray for boldness to step into the purpose You have for us and to glorify You in everything we do. For those who have yet to fully trust in You, Lord, draw them into Your love today. May we walk in the joy, peace, and power of Your Spirit. In Jesus' name, Amen.