

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

SEGMENT 1

SYNOPSIS

The greatest gift of the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit. The living God gives the gift of himself to those who are baptized. From the Spirit flows other gifts, some of which are for our personal sanctification while others are for the building up and support of the body of Christ. Many of the gifts are very familiar to us (wisdom, counsel, love) while others are somewhat foreign (healing, prophecy, tongues). Whatever our experience, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for all Christians, and no one should think that the gifts are not for them.

DISCUSSION

1. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are to be experienced in our daily life and are generously given to us to help us with our Christian walk. How do you experience this?
2. Reflect on experiences that you have had where you were aware of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. What did you experience? Wisdom? Fortitude? Love? Peace? Hope?
3. It is essential that our stance before God is one of being open. What does it look like for you to approach the Lord with an open spirit? Are you open to receiving whatever God wants to give you?
4. Discuss how you see the Holy Spirit being active in the world today.

BE DOCILE
AND OPEN
TO THE SPIRIT.

REFLECTION

Come Holy Spirit. Take fifteen minutes of personal prayer time. For the first couple of minutes do your best to quiet yourself; give to God whatever distractions you may have. Ask God to bring to life the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are present in you: the gifts received at baptism as well as new gifts with which God may want to bless you. Be open - let God bless and anoint you. In the following days and weeks pray for a sensitivity to the movement of the Holy Spirit. It may be in a nudge to call someone, to encourage someone. Someone may share with you that he or she is ill or has a loved one who is struggling; at that moment stop and pray for that person.



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"THE SPIRIT HIMSELF IS 'GOD'S GIFT' PAR EXCELLENCE. A GIFT FROM GOD, AND IN TURN COMMUNICATES DIFFERENT SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO THOSE WHO WELCOME HIM."

- POPE FRANCIS -

KEY TEXTS

CCC 1830 "These (gifts) are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit."

Lumen Gentium 4 "He both equips and directs with hierarchical and charismatic gifts and adorns with his fruits."

Lumen Gentium 12 "These charismatic gifts, whether they be the most outstanding or the more simple... are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation."

Christifideles Laici 21 "The Church is directed and guided by the Holy Spirit, who lavishes diverse hierarchical and charismatic gifts on all the baptized..."

Scripture: Isaiah 11:2-3; 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 8:26,12:6-8; Ephesians 4:11.