

BEHIND THE CURTAIN: THE GIFTS

Intro: The Holy Spirit empowers believers by breaking the barrier between Heaven and Earth and imparting us with gifts that make possible what was not previously possible. The gifts have a purpose beyond ourselves – they are used for the strengthening of the church and the building of God's Kingdom.

Q What has been your experience with "spiritual gifts"?

In Romans 1:11-12 Paul writes about how he longs to see the Roman church and impart to them some spiritual gift that will make them strong. This is a uniquely *other* focused view on the gifts of the Spirit.

Q. In what ways have your spiritual gifts been used to make *others* strong?

READ *Romans 12:3-8*

Q. Paul prefaces his discussion on the gifts of the Spirit by explicitly talking about *humility*. Why would Paul mention this when talking about the gifts?

On Sunday Pastor Paul Summers talked about the necessity of each person being a conduit of God's power through expressing the spiritual gifts.

READ 1 Peter 4:10-11

Q. Zeroing in on the word *each* implies that we all have access to the gifts of the spirit, what are some practical ways that we can express various spiritual gifts?

Q. Most importantly what is the heart motive for expressing the gifts of the spirit and why is it vitally important in the life of God's Church?

(clue read John 13:34-35 and Romans 12:9-11, notice that these verses follow teaching on Spiritual gifts)

