**DESCRIPTION OF THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT**

**1 Corinthans 12: 7-11**

To more easily understand the Gifts of the Spirit we could categorize them as follows:

1. Teaching / Revelation: Word of Wisdom / Word of Knowledge / Discerning of Spirits
2. Ministry to the church and the world / Demonstration: Discerning of spirits / Faith / Gifts of

Healings / Working of Miracles / Prophecy

1. Worship / Declaration: Prophecy / Gift of Tongues / Interpretation of Tongues

**WORD OF WISDOM:**

What is it?

More than knowledge or human/regular wisdom, the gift of the Word of Wisdom is supernatural God inspired understanding that instructs us on what to do or say in a given situation. All true words of wisdom will reflect God’s plans, purposes, and ways of accomplishing things. We must understand that the gift of the Word of Wisdom is when God gives forth a small segment or portion of information from His vast storehouse of wisdom.

What is it not?

This is not a gift of wisdom or a bestowal of wisdom, but simply a message of wisdom given by God. Those who minister this gift are not necessarily wiser or more intelligent than others.

This is not the same as “regular” wisdom that every Christian should seek from God and His word. The Bible encourages us to seek out wisdom and to ask God for it (James 1:5). This wisdom that comes from God or from past experiences and is different than the gift of word of wisdom. The word of wisdom comes during a time when you need or someone else needs divine instruction and understanding. It comes through some form of revelation.

It is not a learned ability. The pursuit of sciences like psychology is not the same thing. And even though philosophy means lover of wisdom, being a philosopher doesn’t mean you function in the word of wisdom.

This gift is not to be confused with the gifts of Word of knowledge or prophecy, although many times these gifts ministered together. Although this message of wisdom comes from God, as with all gifts, it still must be judged and balanced with the word of God, through prayer and other confirmations. We should never just take a message or the ministering of a gift and act upon it without first doing our biblical due diligence.

Gifts don’t equal ministries. As with all other gifts, a person who ministers this gift does not have a ministry of wisdom or word of wisdom.

Purpose:

The purpose behind this gift is pretty easy to grasp. A word of wisdom can solve an individual, church, business, or even a national problem.

It can bring progress, open doors, unanimity/unity, healing, conviction, and so much more

Examples:

Matt 22:15-22 – Jesus responds to questions

Acts 6:1-7 – selecting deacons

(notice how they presented the word to the congregation and the congregation judged it and agreed with it – so then they set out to do their part and the Lord blessed the church as a result of this difficult situation)

Acts 6:8-10 – Stephan’s Address (discurso)

(used in the context of responding to unbelievers)

Genesis 41 – Joseph did not just interpret Pharaoh’s dreams but had a word of wisdom on how to survive during the future famine, by storing the grain during the good years.

Acts 27:31-34 – Paul encouraged people on the ship and gave instructions to eat, because they would not die.