
The Discovery of the Gifts (Stirring Up Your Anointing)

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

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Sermon: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: The Discovery of the Gifts (Stirring Up Your Anointing)

New Series Messages: “The Gifts of the Holy Spirit”

- Sermon: The Purpose of the Gifts (Empowering the Mission)
 - Perfecting the Mission
 - Working the Mission
 - Edifying the Mission

Lesson Text

Jeremiah 1:4–8 (AV)⁴ Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. ⁶ Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I *am* a child. ⁷ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. ⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

2 Timothy 1:6–9 (AV)⁶ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. ⁷ For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. ⁸ Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; ⁹ Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

Introduction

Last week we introduced Gifts of the Holy Spirit by looking at the Purpose in which God gave them to us. We learned from Ephesians 4:12 that they are to Perfect us for our Mission, to Help us Work our Mission, and to Edify us in our Mission.

There are over 20 spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible, not to mention abilities, talents, callings and anointings which all come from God. **But how do we know, learn, or discover our Gifts?**

Paul said concerning the Gifts, 1 Corinthians 12:¹¹ But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. The NLT says: It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

In our first lesson text, Jeremiah had a call on his life that he felt inadequate to do. But He learned that God knew, sanctified, and ordained him before he was even born.

In our second text, Paul tells Timothy the fear and afflictions he’s experiencing concerning his calling are connected to the Godly Power and Gifts within him; but he will need to stir them up!

There are gifts and anointings placed in us based on the call upon our lives; and the catalysts that will reveal them are our fears and our afflictions.

Series and Sermon: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: The Discovery of the Gifts (Stirring Up Your Anointing)

“Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Calling, Your Fears, and Your Afflictions”

I. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Calling

2 Timothy 1: ⁶ Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.

Many people fail to walk in their gifts or anointing because they fail to acknowledge their call.

We must realize that God will not call us to something that He has not already equipped us for.

Jeremiah 1: ⁶ Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I *am* a child. ⁷ But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

Even once we acknowledge our call, we may feel inadequate for it. And the truth is we are inadequate; which is why God places Spiritual Gifts in us before He calls us.

Jeremiah 1: ⁵ Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, *and* I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

A world-class athlete has the DNA at birth to run, jump, or swim at extraordinary levels even though they may not know it. But eventually something happens, something calls and stirs up the gifts within them.

God is constantly calling us, and those callings are designed to stir up the gifts within us.

- Called to speak to a youth or women’s group stirs up the gift of preaching or teaching
- Called to someone depressed and ready to give up stirs up the gift of encouragement
- Called to a person about to make a bad decision stirs up the gift of discernment
- Called to dreams and visions that come to past stirs up the gift of prophesy

II. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Fears

2 Timothy 1: ⁷ For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Some gifts or anointings will either emerge (become exposed) or submerge (become hidden) based on our fears. It depends on if we react to our fears or if we respond to them!

When a person reacts to their fears, they invoke the fear response, also known as the Flight-or-Fight Response. They react with Flight (run), Fight (attack), or Freeze (become paralyzed).

Courage is not the absence of fear, but fear that has said its prayers.

Another way to deal with our fears is to not to react with the **Fight-or-Flight Fear Response**, but with the **Power-of-God Response**.

Paul said to Timothy, God has not given you the spirit of fear, but He's given you the Power to overcome your fears.

Luke 10:19 (AV)¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Jeremiah 1: ⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I *am* with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

It's not that we don't have fear, it's just that the fear stirs up the Power of God within us. It stirs up our Gifts, Stirs up our Anointing, Stirs up our Prayers, Stirs up our Faith, Stirs up our Power.

III. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Afflictions

2 Timothy 1: ⁸ Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;

For some of us, our calling stirs up our anointing. For others, fear stirs them up. The final thing that stirs up our gifts and anointing is being challenged, attacked, troubled, or afflicted.

Paul says to Timothy that God has given him a special power to endure afflictions. Simply put, our afflictions literally stir up the Power of God within us so that we can endure them.

Satan designed the afflictions to stop us. He designed the trouble to depress us. He designed the trials and tribulations to oppress us. He sent evil to provoke us. But instead, is simply exposed the Gifts of God and the Power of God within us.

Genesis 50:20 (AV)²⁰ But as for you, ye thought evil against me; *but* God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as *it is* this day, to save much people alive.

Psalms 34:19 (AV)¹⁹ Many *are* the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (AV)⁸ *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

Romans 8:36–37 (AV)³⁶ As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. ³⁷ Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

Stir up your calling, stir up your giftings, stir up your power, stir up your anointing!

Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Discovery of the Gifts (Stirring Up Your Anointing))

Lesson Text

- Jeremiah 1:4–8, 2 Timothy 1:6–9
- Book: [**“The Complete Guide To Understanding The Holy Spirit”**](#): Read “Discovering and Recognizing Your Gifts”

Sermon Outline (Notes)

I. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Calling

II. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Fears

III. Stirring Up Your Anointing from Your Afflictions

Questions

I. Getting to Know “Me”

1. What is your first reaction when faced with a challenge?
2. Has there been an event in your life where you discovered your spiritual gift by accident? What happened?

II. Into the Bible

1. The lesson text says that God did not give us the spirit of fear. From where did fear originate?
2. Study the historical background of what Christians were experiencing at the time Paul wrote the epistle 2 Timothy. How did this play a part in Paul encouraging Timothy to stir up the gift?
3. In Psalm 34:19 the word, “afflictions” literally means *bad, evil*; and the word, “delivereth” literally means *to snatch away*. How does [God] snatching us away from bad and evil help to facilitate the stirring of our gifts?

III. Life Application

1. In Psalm 34:19 the word, “afflictions” literally means *bad, evil*; and the word, “delivereth” literally means *to snatch away*. How does [God] snatching us away from bad and evil help to facilitate the stirring of our gifts?
2. Which of the three points in this week’s sermon do you find most enlightening for the stirring up of your spiritual gift(s)? Make a plan for what you will do to apply it to your life.