**Session Six** 



Living Fully in the Spirit's Gifting

### **Supplemental Notes**

#### ➤ New Testament references to gifts of the Holy Spirit

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. Romans 12:4-8

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. <sup>11</sup> If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 4:10-11

## **Bible Verses and Significant Quotes**

# Are spiritual gifts different for men and women?

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4,7

"So, all the gifts and the abilities...that are given to humans by the Holy Spirit are never given because one is a male or female." Dallaire

"It's often asked 'Why does God give gifts to women that they can't use?' And my complementarian friends will say 'She can use it, she just can't use it for mixed audiences or over the age of puberty'. There's all these ways of fudging the system." Stackhouse

"In order to image both God's good creation and the re-creation in Christ, we need men and women side by side. And if we don't have that we all miss out of that wonderful picture of what redeemed humanity is supposed to look like." M. Thompson

"I can't think of anything more tragic than to squander someone's gifts. When in fact they're not just avocations. They're not just hobbies. But they really are who the person is called to be." J. Thompson

### Should women be pastors?

"First of all, step back one notch and ask 'What does it mean to be a pastor'? The role of pastor is serving a congregation." Pierce

"It is critical we have both voices at the table. Or otherwise, the church is not being served in the best way it can be served." Pierce

"Paul is calling men and women, like he called Jews and Gentiles, to be side by side with none of the old restrictions or privileges or disadvantages." Pierce

"A pastor is a shepherd. And what does a shepherd, a pastor do? A pastor comforts. A pastor leads a flock... And all of the things are very much things that women do, naturally." Dallaire

"At Denver Seminary, two years in a row, women won the preaching award. And it was not affirmative action. They were the best. There's no question. So I know that women can be very gifted in teaching and preaching the Scriptures" Groothuis

### How can we encourage women in ministry?

"We have women elders who serve as leaders, including the last chair of our church, who was a woman, and did a beautiful job. We also have a preaching team that includes women." Thulson

"I encourage our women...who believe they have a call on their lives. I encourage them to just keep moving forward. God will open the door and don't get discouraged if there is one door that is closed. Maybe it's not the right time for you to be in that context. Keep trusting God. Keep walking with the Lord and you can't go wrong. So, let's just keep going with Jesus and he'll open the doors for you." Dallaire

"I was invited to be the first female preacher of that church in 40 years...And I saw what it looks like for mutuality to happen. And we were a better church because we had women and men together. We were really doing sister/brotherhood together from that point on. It was beautiful." Roese