

The Holy Spirit



Who is The Holy
Spirit?

How to receive him
and his gifts?

Written by Tore Johannessen

Table of content

THE HOLY SPIRIT.....	2
BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.....	2
HOW DO I RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT.....	3
SPEAKING IN TONGUES.....	4
THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.....	6
ANOINTING.....	7
THE NINE SUPERNATURAL GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT IN 1COR 12.....	10
THE WORD OF WISDOM.....	11
WORD OF KNOWLEDGE.....	11
SUPERNATURAL FAITH.....	12
THE GIFT OF HEALING.....	12
WORKING OF MIRACLES.....	13
PROPHECY.....	14
DISCERNING OF SPIRITS.....	15
DIVERS KIND OF TONGUES.....	16
INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES.....	16
TO WHOM AND WHEN WILL THESE GIFTS BE GIVEN?.....	16
SOME IMPORTANT THINGS IN THE END.....	17

Introduction

It can at times be difficult to write about this issue since there are many views on the topic, The Holy Spirit.

What I have written here is more a Pentecostal and charismatic view on the issue. I want to challenge you to test what I have written, by going to the Bible and look it up. If you find parts of what I have written confusing or you want to discuss anything, feel free to contact me.

Tore

Acts 17:11

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

1Thess 5:19-21

*19 Do not put out the Spirit's fire;
20 do not treat prophecies with contempt. .
21 Test everything. Hold on to the good. 1*

Who is The Holy Spirit?

The first important thing to know is who The Holy Spirit is.
The Holy Spirit is not a mystical impersonal force floating around somewhere.
He is as real as I am, and you can talk to him just like you would talk to me.

➤ The Holy Spirit has been from the beginning and he is part of the Trinity.

Gen.1:2

and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters..

Gen.1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness,

In the Old Testament The Holy Spirit was limited. It was poured out only over kings, priest, prophets and some selected people. God could give and take away The Holy Spirit from peoples lives in the old testament

In Judges 16 we read about Samson losing his power, or the anointing, when his hair was cut off. In Psalm 51 we read about David when falling in sin with Batseba, saying: Remove not the Holy Spirit from me.

In the new testament Gods Spirit is poured over all flesh. And when you receive Jesus, The Holy Spirit moves in to your heart, and you can communicate with God. Not all believers were able to do that when you read the old testament.

Jesus said he would send a spokesman The Holy Spirit, when he went to his father (John 15:26). Jesus told us it was best this way, because he couldn't be omnipresent while walking about this earth.

The Father, Son and The Holy Spirit are one. They have the same will and thoughts, but they have tree different tasks. Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father and speaks our matter in before Gods throne, and he is our righteousness. The Holy Spirit's task is to stay on earth to help us, and to glorify the name of God. (John 16:13)

Baptism in The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit was given on the day of Pentecost.



Acts 2:1-5

¹When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be

tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues^A as the Spirit enabled them.

We all receive The Holy Spirit within us when we become Christians, but not everybody has experienced him come upon them. When you hear about the fruit of the spirit (Gal 5:22) you hear of the spirit within us. But when you hear about the gifts of the Spirit you hear of the Spirit upon us.

When Jesus was baptized in the river of Jordan, The Holy Spirit came upon him and anointed him with power to serve in the ministry. But it was already in him from the day he was born. God's Spirit was in him giving him the fruit of love, joy and peace, but he didn't operate in the supernatural gifts until The Holy Spirit had come upon him.

You recognize there has been baptism in The Holy Spirit when you see a new and greater boldness, a greater power to serve him and you receive a new language; speaking in tongues.

Something happened at Pentecost. The disciples of Jesus were all afraid and hiding from the people. And Peter, who should have been the boldest of them all, had denied that he knew Jesus. But at Pentecost, 50 days later, he boldly said, in front of thousands of people: "This Jesus that you crucified, is alive and he is the only way to God" (Acts 2:36)
Surly something had happened, Peter and the disciples were no longer afraid.

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

How do I receive The Holy Spirit

➤ By praying to receive and wanting to receive it.

Luke 11:13

¹³If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Acts 4:31

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly..

➤ By hearing the word of God, and to receive it.

Acts 10:44 and Gal 3:2

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

➤ By laying on of hands.

Acts 8:17

Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:6

When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied..

I received the baptism in The Holy Spirit on a summer camp in 1989. This experience made a big change in my Christian life. I used to be a frustrated Christian with no boldness or power at all. But when The Holy Spirit came upon me I received the power and boldness I had never felt before.

Speaking in tongues

When I was Baptist in The Holy Spirit I didn't speak in tongues that minute, but it was something that I developed more and more after using it in my prayer life.

What characterized the disciple at Pentecost was not that they all started speaking in tongues but there was a new boldness; they had received power. I experienced the same thing; I received a greater boldness in my Christian life.

I believe you can be baptized in the Spirit, and still not speak in tongues. On the other hand I also believe that all that have been baptized in the Spirit have received the gift of speaking in tongues. There can be several reasons why you don't speak in tongues. The most usual reason is that you have received a few, strange words, that sounds just like your neighbor's. You think you've just made them up, and you are afraid of using them. Or it could be that you generally find speaking in tongues a little scary. Another reason might be that you haven't heard any teaching about it, or you've heard teaching saying it was something that only happened at Pentecost and not for us. You may also wonder, what the big deal about speaking in tongues is. Yes, why should we speak in tongues?

1 Cor.14:4

He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church

When I first received the tongues it became a great help in my prayer life. When I speak in tongues I get edified, and when I lack words and don't know what to pray, I begin to speak in tongues and the spirit helps me.

Rom.8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

There can be different experience how you receive the tongues. Some have a big experience, and they receive the tongue right away, while others receive it more gradually, like me.. I ones was on a team where a girl received the tongues in a special way. She prayed for a lady and couldn't find words to pray, so she began to speak out some words she got. The word she got was actually the language the lady spoke, and she got to hear a foreign girl bless her in her own language. This is very Biblical. This is what the apostles experienced at Pentecost.

➤ **There are three types of tongues..**

- ① Tongues for your own use. This is the type I mentioned above. You are speaking secrets with God in a non-earthly language. This is the type of tongues that edifies you.

1 Cor 14:2

For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit

- ② Tongues for the Church. This type should be interpreted, and is one of the nine supernatural gifts in 1Cor 12. This interpretation is for the whole Church or for individual.

1 Cor 12:10

...to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

- ③ Tongues for unbelievers. This is the type of tongues we see at the day of Pentecost. It's an earthly language not known for you but for the one who listen to it.

1 Kor 14:22

Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers.....

I believe baptism in The Holy Spirit opens up for the nine gifts of the Spirit in 1Cor 12. I will write more about that a little later, but first I'd like to say something about the presence of The Holy Spirit.



You will receive power,
dynamis (on Greek;
power)
There is explosive force
in The Holy Spirit.

The presence of The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is always close to us, but sometimes we can feel his presence stronger than other times. Some experience him physically, some more as a peace and joy that is not dependent on circumstances. We can experience this presence especially when we praise and worship.

We can create an atmosphere of peace and joy ourselves, by worshipping God. But the more powerful presence is only dependant on The Holy Spirit.

Very often we open up for the more powerful presence

when we exhort Jesus. Some people experience the presence of The Holy Spirit physically. I 've experienced that.

To experience The Holy Spirit so strong that it's impossible to stand on your feet is actually very Biblical.

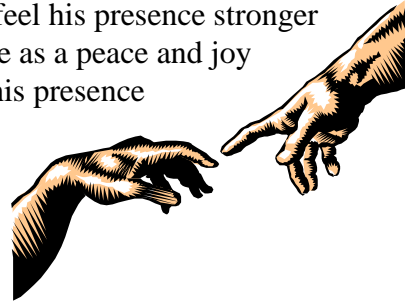
One time Saul tried to kill David, the presence over David and the prophets were so strong that Saul felt it kilometers away.

1Sam 19:20-24

*20*so he sent men to capture him. But when they saw a group of prophets prophesying, with Samuel standing there as their leader, the Spirit of God came upon Saul's men and they also prophesied. *21*Saul was told about it, and he sent more men, and they prophesied too. Saul sent men a third time, and they also prophesied. *22*Finally, he himself left for Ramah and went to the great cistern at Secu. And he asked, "Where are Samuel and David?"

"Over in Naioth at Ramah," they said.

*23*So Saul went to Naioth at Ramah. But the Spirit of God came even upon him, and he walked along prophesying until he came to Naioth. *24*He stripped off his robes and also prophesied in Samuel's presence. He lay that way all that day and night. This is why people say, "Is Saul also among the prophets?"



Anointing

The anointing gives you the power to do something for God, later it create changes in people's lives.

Anointing is another way you can notice the presence of The Holy Spirit.

I have noticed this many times when I have taken on a challenge where I needed God's supernatural power.

At times, before I have a sermon or a testimony, I feel powerless and my thoughts are in a mess. But in the moment I enter the pulpit I get a power and boldness I didn't have before. This is the anointing. Whiteout the anointing I can't do anything. I can't preach nor do anything for God in my own strength, but when The Holy Spirit is over me I'm able to do it.

A person may have a great skill to preach, but whiteout the anointing it can't create changes in the lives of people.

1Cor 2:4-5

4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

The anointing brings a stronger presence of The Holy Spirit. That is the reason why it is so important for the worship leader to be anointed.

The anointing over Jesus healed a woman with bleeding for twelve years. (Mark 5:30)

When the shadow of Peter fell on the sick, they were healed because of the anointing over Peter. (Acts 5:15)

I know my experiences of the anointing in my life are fairly small compared to the two examples above, but I long to get there some day. And I know it's possible!

- It's in the presence of The Holy Spirit we experience Gods peace which surpasses all our understanding.
- It's in the presence of The Holy Spirit we experience the work of the supernatural gifts.
- It's in the presence of The Holy Spirit God speaks to us.

Acts 2:17f

17 " In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

18Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

How God speaks to us.

There are different ways God can speak to us. Either through prophecies, dreams, visions, pictures, audible voice, inner voice or through His word. The two last ones are probably the most usual ways.

If you wonder if God has spoken to you, it may be He did, but you didn't know that it was He. Samuel didn't know it was God the first two times God spoke to him (1 Sam 3), so it is possible that God has spoken to you without you knowing it. I will mention a few things that may help you see God did speak to you.

Lets start by looking at dreams.

It could be that you've had a dream from God. Check the list below and see if you recognize anything.

- Does the dream lead you to seek God more?
- Is the presence of The Holy Spirit there when you wake up?
- Does the dream repeat itself?
- Does the dream give you symbols (like Daniel)?
- Does the dream suddenly wake you up?
- Does the dream come back to you again and again when you are awake?

Next are prophecies.

Did you ever get an encouragement where someone wrote to you or told you that "God loves you very much and has a great future for you" and it was something you really needed there and then? Then God spoke to you through another person. Maybe you also have had a scripture from someone, or something you have read yourself became an encouragement or a revelation for you. Then you have had the experience of hearing Gods voice. It's as simple as that. It's not really difficult to hear God speak to us if we are listening and are aware of Him.

Some personal experiences about hearing God's voice.

Several times, when I've prayed for someone and am under the anointing of God, I've experienced that God has spoken to me. Often times I've thought the words I received were only my own thoughts, but when I've dared to speak the words out I've usually had good reports back.

Once some friends of mine and I were having a worship time together. When we sang one of the songs I got a word of knowledge from God. I got one sentence and it was: "I am so sick and tired of God not hearing my prayers." After we had sung this worshipsong I shared this sentence with the group. Then one of me friends said: "That's strange but it is just what I was thinking before we sang this worshipsong."

Before I left for my outreach on my DTS in Skien, Norway 95/96, we were seeking God to find out what we should do on outreach. We were split up into small groups and asked God. It was four in my group, and when we were to share what we got we all had one thing: Street kids! We didn't know it before we left Norway, but the YWAM base in Ethiopia was just about to start a

work among street kids. They were really encouraged when we told them what God had spoken to us.

When I first heard God's voice in this group I thought it was just from myself because it came so easy and it was the first thing I thought of. I thought if I should really hear from God I had to hear a loud audible voice saying: STREEET-KIIIDS!!!! But God spoke to me through an ordinary thought.

When you learn to hear God's voice you will soon recognize what are from you yourself and what are from God. You get a certaness in you heart.

Once I experienced God speaking to me through a picture in my mind. I was going to a Christian camp, and I needed a car to get there. I had a car, but it was something was wrong with it. I had it at a garage, but they couldn't find what was wrong. On my way home from the garage I prayed: "I know it's your will that I should go to this camp God, and you see that I need this car for tomorrow, so I pray that before I come home you will show me what's wrong with this vehicle." Just a few minutes before I arrived home I saw a picture of the exact thing that was wrong with it. I went out, tightened a screw and my car was fixed.

God doesn't always speaks through "writings on the wall"



*Spirit written by Tore Johannessen
Copyright©15.11.99*

The nine supernatural gifts of the Spirit in 1Cor 12



1Cor 12:4-11

4There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. 6There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. 7Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,^A and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

These gifts are supernatural, they are not natural talents that God has put there, but it will be given to us supernaturally when God wants to (he wants it more often than we do) and when we need it.

Since these gifts are supernatural, they're not from you, but from The Holy Spirit. You are just the channel these gifts work through. A mirror only reflects the sun, it's not the source.

It's the same way with us; we only reflect God's power, we're not the source. These gifts don't belong to me but The Holy Spirit.

It's important for us to understand this. If we don't we easily become proud and believe they are so great and spiritual.

When God works these gifts through you they will appear through your personality. God wants to use you the way you are, he wants it to be different because no one is the same.

Some say that when God uses me it's in a different way than he uses others. But that's just the way it should be, we shouldn't try to be like others. There are enough copies in the world.

If God wants to use you in these gifts, then don't be afraid of making mistakes. You have to be willing to sacrifice your pride. (That also means that if you do make a mistake, admit it.) Before God can use you in these gifts is it important for you to put yourself in a situation that gives The Holy Spirit the opportunity to work through you. Start by laying your hands on the sick and begin to prophesy when you pray for people.

Now I will go through the nine gifts one by one.

The word of wisdom

The word of wisdom is a supernatural wisdom you get from God in a situation where your own wisdom is not enough. It gives you, for instance, wisdom in a situation where you don't know what to say.

Jesus operates a lot through word of wisdom. The Pharisees tried several times to "catch" Jesus in what he was saying so they could accuse him for false teaching.

In John 8 we read about a woman the Pharisees had caught in adultery. They brought her to Jesus to test him. And they said:

John 8:5

In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"

If Jesus had said they should stone her to death they could have taken him to the government of Rome, because they were the only ones to summon a death penalty. If he had said she should not be stoned they could accuse him of breaking the law of Moses. Jesus received a word of wisdom and said:

John 8:7

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."

This led the Pharisees to go away, the elders first. They were probably the ones who knew they were not without sin. This word of wisdom untied the situation.

You might find yourself in a situation where you don't know what to do in the future. Then you need a word of wisdom from God.

Word of knowledge

Impartation of the knowledge God has. A supernatural knowledge of something that has happened or will happen, that we as human beings never could have known.

Word of knowledge is imparted by receiving a word, for instance of a decease on another person you don't know anything about. In a meeting it could be that someone enters the pulpit and says: "It is someone here who has a bad left knee and it was injured this summer in a motorcycle accident."

It is also something you can experience when you pray or talk to someone. The experience I had with my friends in the pervious chapter shows how this gift works. I got a word of knowledge I could not have known naturally. In John 4:16-19 we read about Jesus asking for water from a Samaritan woman at a well. Here Jesus is working through a word of knowledge.

*16He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."
17"I have no husband," she replied.
Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. 18The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."
19"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet.*

When you read this story you can see that Jesus operates in more than one gift. He also operates in the word of wisdom and the prophecy.

Supernatural faith

A supernatural revelation of Gods faith. It will be given to you at a specific time, at a specific place, for a specific purpose.

The gift of faith has nothing to do with the verse saying “ *faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.* ”(Rom 10:17)

When this gifts is in function, supernatural things will happen that has nothing to do with your own faith, only Gods faith.

When The Holy Spirit comes over you and work in this gift it will be a breakthrough in one way or the other.

These gifts also work by a strong certainty that you have already received what you have prayed for.

Daniel experienced this gift when he was in the lion’s den. (Dan 6)

Elisha experienced this gift when a raven gave him bread and meat everyday when he was in the desert (1 King 17)

When Peter heal the paralyzed man at the temple gate, he operated in this gift. He says himself:

Acts 3:16

By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see.

The gift of healing

This gift works when a person gets healed without a doctor or medicine. Healing is something that happen gradually, the sick person gets more and more well over a period of time. One example from the Bible is when Jesus heals the son of a nobleman.

John 4:50-53

*50 Jesus replied, "You may go. Your son will live."
The man took Jesus at his word and departed. 51 While he was still on the way,
his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. 52 When he inquired
as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, "The fever left him
yesterday at the seventh hour."
53 Then the father realized that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said
to him, "Your son will live." So he and all his household believed.*

When you feel a great compassion and love for someone that is sick, God probably wants you to use this gift. Be bold and start to lay your hands on the sick! It could also be The Holy Spirit comes over you with an extraordinary power.

Matt 14:14

*When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and
healed their sick.*

Mark 5:30

*At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in
the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"*

Working of miracles

Some examples of miracles are: To make sun and moon stand still, make water into wine, divide the red sea, walk on water, calm the storm and feed five thousand with five loaves of bread and two fish.

You can't make miracles happen, but you can put yourself in a situation where God can use this gift through you. Miracles are something that works instantly, healing can take a longer time. In the Bible you can see that working of miracles, the gift of faith and healing go together. When someone has been raised up from the dead, then these two gifts have been in function.

Two examples

John 11:41-44

*41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank
you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this
for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent
me."
43 When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"
44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and
a cloth around his face.*

Mark 5:40-41

*...But they laughed at him.
After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. ⁴¹He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha koum!" (which means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").*

Before a miracle happens a command usually has to be given. If you feel The Holy Spirit comes over you and gives you a command, be aware that this could be The Holy Spirit wanting you to use this gift.

Prophecy

Prophecy is to say something from God, and it is in a language everyone understands. Prophecy is not something you say of yourself but it is to impart directly what The Holy Spirit wants to say.

The purpose of a prophecy is to edify, exhort and comfort. Paul said that this gift is the one we should seek to get the most.

1Cor 14:1,3-4

*1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy...
³But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.
⁴He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.*

We have often made prophesy something difficult. We think that if I am to speak out a prophecy it really has to be "something", it has to be great and you have to say: This says the Looord.. But a prophecy can be that you were reminded of a scripture you wanted to share in a meeting or give to someone and that was an encouragement for the person. Prophecy is for edification, exhortation and comfort.

We always hope that a prophecy is a hundred percent from God, but most of the time it's not, at least not the first time. The reason is that the vessel he uses is not one hundred percent perfect. We are so afraid of failing, but if we are going to do something for God we have to dare to fail. And don't start with difficult prophecies. Like: "Next year you are going to Africa." But start simple like: So says the Lord: "I love you or I have future and hope for you." If this prophecy is wrong it really doesn't matter. If the person you tell didn't feel loved by God and he really needed to hear it becomes a great encouragement to him. If not, it's encouraging to hear it anyway. If it is a more serious prophecy you can also say that: "I don't know if this is God, but test them in your heart. If it's not right, forget it or put it on "the shelf"."

The church should be a place where it is legal to fail, but often it is not like that. The church is the worst place to fail because we are so perfectionists.

Prophecies can be misused like the rest of the gifts. That's why we should test what has been said. But not by critical eyes.

Because prophecies has been misused they are often despised. When a prophecy has been said in a church you can see that the congregation is judging it. It says in the Bible to test the prophecy, but you should know by the first sentence if this is absolutely not from God.

Receive the whole message to yourself, and put things that you know is not from God on the "shelf".

This is how you evaluate a prophecy: Does it lift up the name of Jesus? Does it edify the church? Is it according to the word of God? Does it produce freedom or bondage.

A very good advice when you evaluate a prophecy is:

A PROPHECY SHOULD NEVER LEAD YOU, IT SHOULD ONLY BE A CONFORMATION ON SOMETHING YOU ALREADY KNOW IN YOUR HEART.

If you receive a prophecy that doesn't conform something you already have in your heart, put it on "the shelf". If it is God he will remind you of it, and take it forth again later.

Discerning of spirits

This is Gods alarm system for the church against false teaching. This gift enables you to know if someone is lying to you, or if it is a false prophecy or teaching.

Here are some Biblical examples:

Acts 5:1-4

1Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. 2With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. 3Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? 4Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."

Peter exposed, with help from The Holy Spirit, the motive behind Ananias and Safira's "good deeds"

Acts 8:18-24

18When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money 19and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! 21You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. 22Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a

thought in your heart. ²³For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."

²⁴Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

This segment is about Simon the wizard who had become a Christian. Everything was right. He had received Christ and had been baptized, he went to church and he asked to be filled with The Holy Spirit's power and authority. But Peter, with help from The Holy Spirit, saw through him and what his motive was.

This gift you are also in use when you discern if a person is demon possessed.

Acts 16:16

¹⁶Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. ¹⁷This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." ¹⁸She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

Divers kind of tongues.

This is tongue that is being said out loud in a congregation, and it should be translated. It can also be a language on earth that you don't understand but someone in the congregation does.

To speak in tongues for your own edification is not one of these nine gifts in 1 Cor 12.

You can use the gift you received when the Holy Spirit baptized you whenever you like, but you can not use the supernatural gift for the church when you like to. All of these nine gifts are given to you when The Holy Spirit wants to, not when you want.

1 Cor 12:11

All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

The way you can notice this kind of tongues is when you can feel there is a kind of a spiritual pressure inside you. Practically it can be that you feel your heart is beating faster and you feel there's something God wants to say.

Interpretation of tongues.

Interpretation of tongues that have been said out loud in a congregation, is a prophetic message.

To whom and when will these gifts be given?

I believe we can all operate in all of these gifts; Jesus did. Paul also says in 1 Cor.12:7

7Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

In other words it says that these gifts are given when it's suitable. I believe that if you are in a situation where you need any of these gifts, The Holy Spirit will give it to you there and then. I believe if someone is sick we don't have to wait for a "healer" to pray for the sick but God wants to impart faith in you so you can operate in the gift of healing.

The Holy Spirit will give it to you when you need it.

I believe you can be trained to be more secure and have more faith in using one or more of the gifts, but it doesn't mean that you can't function in all of them.

Some important things in the end.

Desire these gifts, not
for your own sake, but
for others!

These gifts have to be
used in love, if not it
can be used for your
own benefit! (1 Cor
14)

These gifts should not
be used for your own
glory nor to gain
spiritual popularity,
neither should it be used
to manipulate forth
your own selfish will!
