

Small Group Studies



'Bringing God and people together'

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit - Part 1

By Ps. Peter Starr

Share any personal experiences regarding the gifts of the Spirit

If I were to build a house I would definitely not consider doing it with my own hands or strength but would need to get the right tools. God has provided various spiritual gifts that are like power tools for the building of His house which is the church.

The Bible teaches us that no one can actually come to Christ without the leading of the Spirit. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will guide, help, empower, encourage, equip and counsel all Christians in life and ministry. Every Christian should be seeking to be filled, directed and used by the Holy Spirit.

Q How does the Holy Spirit work in our lives?

If a person speaks in tongues we should realize that that person is actually doing the speaking and using their own vocabulary.

Q What is the nature of the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God. He has all of the attributes of God, which are all knowing, all powerful and ever present. The Holy Spirit is a person and He has a nature.

Q Will He ever over ride our free will or seek to control us?

1 Cor.12:4-7 *"There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.⁵ There are diversities of ministries, but the same Lord.⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works in all.⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all"*

Like the colours of the rainbow these gifts overlap, they are different, yet in some ways the same.

1 Cor.12:8-11 *"for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,¹⁰ to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills"*

Discuss what people think of the gifts.

Q Although these gifts are freely given for us to use, how can we safeguard against the misuse of these powerful gifts?