

Mother of God Community
Sunday Night Prayer Meeting
Activating the Gifts of the Holy Spirit
July 31, 2010
Mark G

This topic of the Charisms is fundamental to each member of the Mother of God Community who has been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Our goal as a community is that we collectively make progress in encouraging each of you to mature in the gifts. Our focus to our discussion tonight in talk three began on June 6th with Bob Roche's talk on the Renewal of the Mind and this is part of this renewal of the mind is understanding and use of the Gifts. The fact is our community founding Charism at MOG is this very grace and we will only grow and continue to exist if we press on in the new outpourings of the Holy Spirit Gifts for 2010 and beyond. Jump in and swim in the Gifting. This talk will include:

1. Church's teaching – JP II
2. Our position is to receive – open heart of faith Prayer of Paul...Eph 3:
3. Gifting model – life from above comes in form of gifts
4. Empowering relationships with gifts
5. Practical gifting exercise

1. Church's teaching – JP II

I have grown to believe that the only place in our culture you will grow in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit is in committed relationships in a Holy Spirit Community. In Luke 24:49 we heard earlier tonight about what was the promise of the Father for each of us; to be clothed in the Holy Spirit. What a wonderful promise! JP II prophetic word was God is calling the lay people to 'Christian Personalism' where we are each personally responsible to use of Gifts to share the Gospel in our world submerged in materialism. The after effects of our materialistic culture leaves us empty.

"Through this force the Church is united with the Spirit of Christ, that Holy Spirit promised and continually communicated by the Redeemer and whose descent, which was revealed on the day of Pentecost, endures forever. Thus the powers of the Holy Spirit, the gifts of the Spirit, (Acts 2:38, Rom.15:13, I Cor. 1:24) and the fruits of the Spirit are revealed in men – and this is the answer for all the materialism.

The Spirit places within us the sentiments of the Son. "The Church must always be aware of the dignity of the divine adoption received by man in Christ through the grace of the Holy Spirit" Page 42 Redeemer of Man. CCC 1505 also mentions how the laity are called to use the gifts that the world might believe.

Our vision at MOG is to help each person realize his/her full adoption in Christ. MOG is this safe place to experiment with gifting and experiencing your adoption. Oh that we all would come to full maturity with and yield what Jesus promises in John 15 - abundant fruit. John 15:5. You are the branches – for each of you to allow your gifts as lay people to progress to full maturity in helping our brothers and sisters at MOG mature into and "produce a mature humanity" in each of us living in MOG

- Francis McNutt says, God is trying to break through our hearts. We have emasculated the Charisms over the centuries.
- JP II said lay people are not second class Catholics...we are all needed to spread the Gospel to our generation.

2. Gifting Request- Come - Holy Spirit --- Our position is to "Ask and Receive, Hear and Obey in love"
Two years ago Damian Stayne led us in a Charism School weekend where we refocused on the Charisms. The weekend launched many of us to start asking God for the gifts and in my own case- healing gifts. The key step was to start having this faith again to ask God. In Acts 2:4 "All of them were filled..." once filled with BIS the question is how are we to discover and use our gifts? I have learned three keys that are, in a way a repeated cycle of asking God for grace of His gifts:

1. *Revelation – allowing your innermost heart to hear God's voice.*
2. *Impartation – receiving the anointing or presence of the Holy Spirit in your life for service in the Kingdom of God.*
3. *Activation – stepping out in faith to do what you have been sensing/learning that the Holy Spirit wants you to do.*

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Let's all us activate these wonderful gifts at the Miracle Services coming up. We have been praying as a body Acts 4:29 and we can believe God that he will also use you to progress in the gifts during the Miracle Service.

3. Gifting Model...a new model to think about. The Above vs. the below

The Above is where the gifts originate and we need to bring down to our lives. Draw a line in center of your papers and realize that this is where we need to start looking to, the heavenly blessed life to receive the grace of Gifts. Below the line living will never produce fruit for the Kingdom. John 15:5 says we can produce nothing if we are not attached to the vine of the Spirit. I have one aim, that the Holy Spirit would do his work of revelation in your lives and teach each of you where the source of your gifts are for your lives. Get your information about life in prayer from above by asking God for wisdom from above...knowledge from above, faith from above etc. – this is where Paul got all his information, for example:

Eph 3:14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom his whole family^[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

- Read I Cor. 12:7-10 with the drawn line in the center of your notebook... above the line draw eight vertical...we draw Life form above upon your world:
- Smith Wigglesworth : On Spiritual Gifts

“Do you think that if you get a gift you will feel it? It is nothing like that. If you ask for a gift, do not expect that there will be a feeling with it. There is something better; there is a fact with it, and the fact will bring the feeling after the manifestation. People want feelings for gifts. There is no such thing. You make the biggest mistake if you dare to continue praying about anything until you feel like doing something as sure as can be you have lost your faith.”

I believe that our challenge is to ask in order to activate the gifts that God has given to MOG. You all are prophetic people full with an incredible richness of the Holy Spirit.. Jump in – it's time to swim. Activation comes from getting revelation, impartation into your spirits and then action, stepping out by obeying the Holy Spirit.

- Miracle...Theresa Leyva's lost glasses
- Word of Knowledge... Fr. Stefan.
- Recognize the Word of Knowledge...
 - i. See it
 - ii. Imagine it...
 - iii. Read it....
 - iv. Think it
 - v. Dream it
 - vi. Feel it.... Sometimes you get a feeling on body.. healings

4. Gifting Relationships: The gifts can be used to empower relationships in your life by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Everywhere I go now I'm asking the Holy Spirit what's up. What do you want me to do, say, pray, etc? Where do you want me to go? Who can I pray with for a healing?

Example: I was in a cab two weeks ago and the taxi driver was from Vietnam. We started talking about his life and

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how difficult he has had it coming to the United States. I sensed I should pray right then and there.

I believe strongly in Holy Spirit Gifting for our relating and for evangelism. We should have Words of Knowledge for people coming to the Miracle Service, for our children, our neighbors and friends. We should be seeing gifts of healing across the whole community, just go pray over someone, expressing God's heart prophetically in the marketplace and to new people.

Finally, over the many years within MOG we have accumulated many old ways of relating and communicating out of the old mindset and the ways of the world. Maybe you have been thinking you failed the course on gifts. You can't fail this because it is something God wants you to have. It is like no other gifting. Maybe you feel, "I'm not valued." God wants to affirm you again in your inheritance as adopted Sons/Daughters by giving to you his gifts. Please start asking again! Bring His blessing of the gifts this week to:

- Family – God wants blessing for them
- Spouse – Blessing on your spouse
- Fellowship with community members
- Parents – blessing your children
- MOG leaders – blessing MOG
- Clergy, Priest – be a blessing
- Work – be a blessing

5. Gifting exercise Everyone pay attention now
 - a. Turn to the person next to you and say something to them
 - b. What came to mind? Blank, Good Memory
 - c. Now turn again. Call on the Holy Spirit and ask for His promised Holy Spirit. Ask for a gift of wisdom that you understand his heart for this person
 - d. Now write a prayer for this person. Nothing negative – edify and encourage – bless this person.
 - e. Now turn it into a prophecy
6. Conclusion- Like I said before, maybe you have a thought you failed the course on gifts, maybe you have concluded, "I don't have any gifts." All these thoughts are lies to undermine your fullness of love that God has for you.

Prayer: Father – renew the gifts of the Holy Spirit fire within us as beloved children in the kingdom. Father, I ask that you hear our prayer tonight of your children that desire to live a more dynamic life with the gifts. Like a crashing wave wake us up to our gifts. Father, that each person would receive new gifts, affirm them again in your love in their adoption of your inheritance as a Son/Daughter in your family here at MOG. For Jesus' glory and in his name I pray.