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Hour of Power - 28.09.2025

GOOD MORNING/INVOCATION – Bobby & Hannah

BS: This is the day the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Good morning.

HS: Yes, welcome visitors. Welcome, church family. Again, we're so happy that you're here. Jesus said to us, because I Zoe, which in Greek means I'm alive with a God kind of life, you are also Zoe, alive with a God kind of life. Hallelujah. Thank you, Lord. You are so loved.

BS: Amen. And we're going to enter into worship now. Let's prepare our hearts. Remember that the Holy Spirit is present in the house with us right now. And wherever the Holy Spirit is, there is Zoe life, there's the ability to break chains, to set the captive free. When the pairing of our faith and the presence of the Holy Spirit comes together, miracles happen. And so it is so important this part that we're going into now that we open our hearts to receive all the good that the Holy Spirit wants to bring to us today. Is that right? Are we ready to receive this morning? So, Father, we come to you in Jesus name boldly. We thank you that the presence of the Lord is here. And we are grateful, God, that you have called us your sons and daughters. You will not withhold any good gift from us if we ask.

And so we ask today in faith and we lift up the audience of one, Jesus Christ, Son of God, King of kings, Lord of lords, we lift up His name and we thank you for Him, and it's in Jesus name we pray, all God's people said, amen.

HAVEN: Turn to the person next to you and say God loves you and so do I.

SCRIPTURE – 1. Korinther 12,1-11 – Hannah Schuller

Let's feed our faith this morning, church with 1st Corinthians 12:1 through eleven. Now about the gifts of the spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore, I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the spirit of God says, Jesus be cursed, and no one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone, it is the same God at work.

Now, to each one, every person in the church, okay, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one, there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom. To another, a message of knowledge by means of the same spirit. Okay, to another faith by the same spirit. To another gifts of healing by that one spirit. To another miraculous powers. To another prophecy. To another distinguishing between spirits. To another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and still to another, the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one. Okay, all of us, just as he determines.

Thank you, Lord.

DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller

BS: We're going to say this creed together, as we do every week, but I just want to remind you that we can say this with boldness because of what Christ accomplished for us on the cross. Did you feel the power when we were singing the blood, the blood, the blood? That word is off-putting to people in the world, but for us, we understand that when the blood is applied, something amazing happens for us. And so we're grateful for what Christ accomplished on the cross, amen? (AUDIENCE – amen) And we became children of God, sons and daughters, so we're going to proclaim it boldly.

Hold your hands like this with me. Let's say this together: I'm not what I do. I'm not what I have. I'm not what people say about me. I am the beloved of God.

Spiritual Gifts: Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment of Spirits

It's who I am. No one can take it from me. I don't have to worry, I don't have to hurry, I can trust my friend Jesus and share His love with my neighbor.
Thanks, you can be seated.

MESSAGE/PRAYER – Spiritual Gifts: Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment of Spirits

Okay, today we're going to be talking about the charismatic gifts. We're beginning a series, and we're going to be talking about the gifts of revelation, which are three particular gifts that are mentioned that come as a gift of the Holy Spirit. Before we dive into this, I just want to tell you something from my own experience. I remember seeing these spiritual gifts in action in a church really profoundly the first time I went on a missionary trip. Now, I had seen them in the past, but there was something about this trip in Thailand where at first, to be honest with you, it was a little weird for me because I came as an outsider. I went with this group called Teen Mania, which is a lot like Wai Wam or something like that. We went to Thailand and it was a beautiful place, beautiful people, and by the way, amazing food, but there's also, at least back then, there was a dark, spiritual heaviness around it. And so when we went in, God equipped us with the particular charismatic spiritual gifts we needed. And it was weird to see miracles, healings, people speaking in tongues, the casting out of demons, walking by the spirit, discernment, words of knowledge, prophecies happening, and at first it was very weird and very strange for me to be around that, but to be honest with you, after a couple of weeks, it kind of just became normal. And of course it's normal because as a believer, it's from the Lord. So all we're seeing is God set the captive free in a powerful way. Isn't it funny how something that seems so strange by the end of a trip like that, a miracle and things, it almost is like singing a hymn in church, really. And my hope is that we as a church can dive deeper and be activated in some of these gifts, both here in the congregation and as we go. It is interesting how very often missionaries, in particular, from all sorts of traditions, regularly experience many of these gifts and don't seem to have those barriers. And I think it's because when they go to spiritually dark places, the power of Satan is like way up here and God matches it or beats it. And I think that they have to be equipped with those gifts and those tools to make the kind of impact. And so you just see everybody: Lutheran, Methodist, non-denominational, even Baptists, activating some of these gifts when they're being sent. Isn't that great? And so let's go ahead and we're just going to read these gifts. If you have your Bibles open up to 1st Corinthians chapter 12. Now Paul is writing to the church, right? He's not writing to the 12 disciples, is he? He's writing to the church. Are we the church? (AUDIENCE – yes) We are. Is this for us? (AUDIENCE – yes) Okay. First Corinthians chapter 12 says, "Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters." NIV says, "I don't want you to be uninformed." Do you think many people in the church are uninformed today on the spiritual gifts? (AUDIENCE – yes) They are, right? Does the scripture say we should be uninformed? No. We ought to know. So this version, "Brethren, I don't want you to be ignorant. You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these" somebody say dumb idols (AUDIENCE – dumb idols). They're dumb, aren't they? Now this means they can't speak, but I like just thinking, those are dumb. Some of us have some dumb idols in our life, don't we? Time to get rid of those. "However you were led. Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all." The same God. Somebody say the same God. (AUDIENCE – the same God) Does God change? (AUDIENCE – no) Is He the same yesterday, today and forever? (AUDIENCE – yes) That's right. "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all; for to one is given the word of wisdom" we're going to talk about that today "through the spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same spirit, to another faith by the same spirit, to another the gifts of healings by the same spirit." Are you hearing same spirit? "To another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one in the same Spirit works all these things, distributing each one individually as he wills." So there's the list. This is a list of nine, what we often call charismatic gifts or spiritual gifts, and what we do traditionally is break these down into three categories: the gifts of revelation, which is word of wisdom, word of knowledge, discerning of spirits, we're going to talk about that today. The gifts of power, we're going to talk about next week. That's healings, miracles and faith. And I just believe we're going to see a manifestation of that in the service next week. Don't you? You ready for that? I am! (AUDIENCE – yes) Somebody say, I'm ready. (AUDIENCE – I'm ready) Okay, good.

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And then the week after that, we're going to talk about the vocal gifts, which are tongues, the interpretation of tongues and prophecy. And actually, I have a list of this and then the somatic gifts and the calls of office. It's too long to put on the screen. If you want that list or if you're watching on TV or YouTube, just email us at this email and we will send it out to you so you can have it for your Bible study or your small group or whatever it is. It's just a clear description of each of the gifts. Okay. There are a small minority of Christians today who love the Lord, who are called by God, who are saved and are doing great things for God, but do not believe that these gifts are for today. We're not going to get into that view, but let's just say we don't believe that here. We don't believe that. We don't see it in the scripture. We think God is the same today, yesterday and forever. And so we love people that are in that view. The majority of Christians believe something more like this, that most of the gifts are in operation today, still, but they scare us to death and don't touch it. Is that right? Most Christians today believe, like Billy Graham believed this. They're active, like most Christians believe they're active, just don't do it. And so I don't think we should take that view. I don't think we should be uninformed, as the scripture says, and I don't think we should be afraid of the gifts. In the tradition I was ordained in, the Dutch Reformed Church, we believe in the spiritual gifts, we just don't practice them very often. It's not common. Some of you might remember a pastor used to serve here. Wonderful guy, full of life. He was an RCA pastor like us. He's since retired. Terry Nyheis. Anybody remember Terry? He said this funny thing to me. He goes, "the Reformed Church absolutely believes in the spiritual gifts, they just terrify us and we never do it." Is that right? And how silly to be afraid of a gift. I said, how silly to be afraid of a gift. And this is what I said to him. I said, imagine being afraid of a Christmas present. Imagine being afraid of a birthday cake. Is that silly? No, we are the bride of Christ, and the Lord has presented us these gifts. We should receive them. Amen? Receive the gifts of the spirit. Brother Prince, Derek Prince, who was a great evangelist, a missionary and teacher. I think he died in Jerusalem about 20/25 years ago. He gave this description of church history. He said, "Church history is basically 1,800 years of Christians trying to find a system so safe we don't need to rely on the Holy Spirit." I'll say it one more time. It's 1,800 years, this is church history, 1,800 years of the church trying to find a system so safe that we don't need to rely on the Holy Spirit. Somebody say, we need the Holy Spirit and His gifts. (AUDIENCE - we need the Holy Spirit and His gifts) We need the Holy Spirit and His gifts. (AUDIENCE – we need the Holy Spirit and His gifts) That's right. In fact, the scriptures say that in the last days there will be an extra pouring out of His spirit. Maybe that's happening now, I don't know, but it is clear that God is revealing and activating these gifts in a more common and more profound way. I'm so surprised at the churches I'm going into now that are actively not afraid of a Christmas present. Isn't that great? And we're not afraid either. Fear is evil. Is that right? Fear is evil. We love the Lord. We're not afraid. There are a lot of people, maybe you're here today, and I understand this, who say, I don't want to participate in the spiritual gifts because I have known so many people that are fakers, or I have known people that have abused it. Can I tell you something? Even if you get out of the charismatic tradition or out of churches that practice it, are you going to find fakers? Are you going to find abusers and narcissists? They're in every church, they're in every tradition. And in fact, when we see in the early church where the gifts were practiced across the board, it wasn't an option. All churches in the early church practiced these gifts. Young and old, every place they were in practice. Fakers and abusers were a major problem. That's what a major part of Corinthians is about, is dealing with the fakers. So it's just part and parcel. So, no, we do not throw the gifts out just because there's fakers and abusers. We do not throw the baby out with the bath water. You eat the fish, you throw the bones away. Is that right? You eat the fish, throw the bones away. Some people eat the head. You're crazy. All right, if you have your Bibles open up to John chapter 14. Look at what Jesus says about what we'll accomplish. John, chapter 14. In John 14 verse 12, "Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the" somebody say works (AUDIENCE – works). Now, when you talk about the great works of Christ, what are you talking about? Yes, you might talk about His love, you might talk about this and that, but almost every believer, young and old, is going to think of the miracles that He performed. The book of John says that if we were to record all of the miracles that Jesus did, that there probably wouldn't be enough room in all the world to contain all the scrolls and books. Somebody say, that's a lot of gifts. (AUDIENCE – that's a lot of gifts) Isn't that a lot? (AUDIENCE – yes) So He says, anyone who believes in me? Do you believe in Jesus? (AUDIENCE – yes) Is that us? Anyone who believes in me? (AUDIENCE – yes) Not just people in the first century, but anyone? Are you anyone? (AUDIENCE – yes) Okay, "anyone who believes in me or whoever believes in me will do the works.

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I've been doing and they will do even" somebody say greater things (AUDIENCE – greater things) than these because I'm going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name so that the Father may be glorified in the Son." You may ask for anything in my name and I will do it. That's either true or it's well. Is it true or well? (AUDIENCE – true) All right. You guys are great this morning. I appreciate it. You're helping me preach. Jesus even later says.. many of us, we would love to sit and eat with Jesus Christ and be with Him and just a minute with Him. And I understand that. I feel that same way, too, but He says to the disciples, it's better that I go. It's better that I go. In John, He says, "it's better that I go so that who? The Holy Spirit will come upon you. Now, when we look at the disciples, pre Holy Spirit and post Holy Spirit, we see two very different people. Pre Holy Spirit, you see them trying hard, they can't seem to get it. They mess up all the time then they pick themselves up. That's how a lot of Christians are, right? Post Holy Spirit, everywhere Peter walks his shadow heals people. His shadow! Post Holy Spirit, we see "silver and gold have I not but rise up and walk." Post Holy Spirit, we see this massive waves and move of God. No wonder it's better that He goes so that we today can receive that same spirit. Amen? (AUDIENCE – amen) We need the Holy Spirit. He's not the great I was. He's not the great I was. He is the great I Am. Is that right? Let's say it together: He's not the great I was. He's the great I Am. Okay, turn in your Bibles to John chapter three, if you got it. This should be to the left, about 12 pages. Is that right? Okay. John, chapter three, verse one. Now, before I read this, Nicodemus is one of the good Pharisees. There's a lot of Pharisees actually that are not bad. And even Jesus in His own day would have been considered by others to be a Pharisee. And Nicodemus comes to Jesus and he says, we can clearly see you're from God. We know it. And how do they know? Because only someone from God can do the signs that you're doing. Let's read it together. "Now, there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus, who was a member of the Jewish ruling council." So very high up. Mega, mega leader and ruler. "He came to Jesus at night and he said, 'rabbi,'" so that alone calling Him a rabbi is a big deal. "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God for no one could perform the"" what? (AUDIENCE – signs) "The signs that you're doing if God were not with him." Notice how signs draw people to Jesus. Signs draw people to Jesus. You know, one reason I'm going deeper now, I remember this word that a pastor told me back in the day. He said, if a church can just heal people, they don't need to be seeker sensitive anymore. Right? If a church has miracles, they don't need to be seeker sensitive. People will part the sea to get to that church. Is that right? (AUDIENCE – yes) See, we need the power of God. We don't need gimmicks, do we? We need God's power and we need God's life manifested in this community. And it's manifesting. Thank you, Lord. Okay, it continues on. "How can someone.." Okay, where was I? "And Jesus replied, 'very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God.'" So seeing the kingdom of God here is the signs, is what He's referring to. "No one here can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." Now we as Christians call ourselves born again, and I think that's a good thing to do and that's a godly thing to say. But probably a better translation of this phrase is born from above. Or you could say born from God or born from heaven. And the reason this is important is Jesus continues to illuminate what it means to be born from above. "How can someone"" this is Nicodemus talking now, "how can someone be born when they're old?" Nicodemus asked. 'Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb and be born.'" Is Nicodemus walking in the flesh or walking in the Spirit? (AUDIENCE – in the flesh) He's walking in the flesh. Is he walking by faith or is he walking by sight? (AUDIENCE – sight) He's walking by sight. He's walking by what he sees around him, rather than sensing in his Spirit what is true that God's revealing to him through the person of Jesus Christ. "Jesus answered, 'very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they're born of water.'" So that's your baptism. "And born of the spirit." Born of the spirit. Born of the Spirit. "For flesh gives birth to flesh, but the spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised by me saying you must be born again or born from above, or born from heaven. The wind," by the way, that word for wind is pneuma. It means spirit, though it's a wordplay. So "the Spirit blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it's going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." Notice how often He says, born of the Spirit. Born of the Spirit. We talk about being born again. I'm ready to sign a petition and get Christians.. let's stop calling us born again Christians and call ourselves born of the Spirit Christians. Not really. I'm not really saying that. But I'm like, this is funny. Imagine the mind shift that takes place if you say yes, I am a Christian that has been born of the Spirit. I walk in the Spirit. I walk according to the leading of the Holy Spirit. I operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. When I ask the Lord, He answers me because I ask according to His word. I walk in victory. I walk in victory in the Spirit. Amen? Okay. Declare this with me:

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I am a child of God (AUDIENCE – I am a child of God). I need more church, come on. I am born of the Spirit (AUDIENCE – I am born of the Spirit). I receive a fresh wind of God (AUDIENCE – I receive a fresh wind of God). All right, God's going to give it to you because you asked. Amen. Thank you, Lord. Turn with me to Mark, chapter 16. This is the Great Commission that everybody avoids. Ironically, Mark is the first of the four gospels written. It's the oldest one. And this is a powerful way that Jesus talks about the commission. Mark 16, verse 15. This is the last couple paragraphs of the book of Mark. He says, He, Jesus, says to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. But whoever does not believe will be condemned. All these signs." Somebody say signs (AUDIENCE – signs) "will accompany those who believe. Are we among those who believe? (AUDIENCE – yes) We are, right? "In my name," by the way, this is not going to get less weird. This sermon is getting weirder and weirder the deeper we go. All right? Is that okay? Can I get a little weirder? (AUDIENCE – yes) All right, here we go. "So here's some things that will happen if you believe in Christ. In my name they will drive out demons. They will speak in new tongues. They will pick up snakes with their hands." By the way, that's referring to when you'd travel in those days, snakes are something you've got to worry about. You'll be bit by a snake, especially in the Middle East, very dangerous. "When they drink deadly poison." So that can happen too. Someone tries to poison you because you're preaching the gospel. "It will not hurt them at all. They will place their hands on the sick and they might get well." (AUDIENCE – no) Is it true or well? (AUDIENCE – true) This is true. "They will place their hands on the sick and they will get well." "After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs" by the signs, by the signs, by the signs that accompanied it. Somebody say amen. (AUDIENCE – amen) First thing we see about these gifts is they're go gifts. They go. These are gifts that go. You can't follow a parked car, can you? The Holy Spirit is always on the move. You follow the Spirit, you'll be in the presence of the gifts. That means that yes, it can happen here, but it also happens out there. In other words, we ought to be a go church. Is that right? (AUDIENCE – yes) A church that goes to the nations, that goes to the hurting, that goes into the streets. The best way to experience the gifts is to not just ask for the gifts, but to ask as you go, as you go to church, as you go to the world. Amen? And I think this is a big reason why missionaries seem to experience the gifts the most of all of the members of the church is they're the big goers. Now it can happen here too, and it will happen here, and it does happen here, but it happens especially when as a church, we're going. Amen? The second thing we want to understand about these gifts, the spiritual gifts are led by love. They're led by love, agape love. Any spiritual gift that is outside of love is worthless. That's what 1st Corinthians 13 tells us. These gifts are led by love. So anytime this is narcissistic, manipulative, the Holy Spirit never manipulates. The Holy Spirit never dominates. The Holy Spirit never pushes someone who doesn't want to be pushed. Is that right? It's led by love. He doesn't overtake us unless we ask Him to. He's led by love. Speaking of love, I want to just mention we hit a pretty big milestone. We crossed 100,000 subscribers on YouTube, so YouTube sent us our silver play button. That's kind of cool. I thought it was fun. And actually, we've already, thanks to you guys, we've already added like another 50,000 or so since then, so we're growing quickly. It's great. And we can turn a silver button gold. Did you know that? There's a way to turn it gold. You got to hit a million subscribers. And I just feel like we can do that by the end of this year. Don't you think that could happen? Let's do it. I don't know, keep an eye on it. Let's see if it happens. And you can help us by subscribing. Okay. Okay, so we got it. I'll talk more about the Holy Spirit in the coming weeks, but let's get deep into the weeds, shall we? I need another 15 minutes or so. So let's talk about three of the nine that we set aside for today: the gifts of revelation. Gifts of revelation are the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discerning of Spirits. If you're taking notes, I'll say it again: the gifts of revelation are word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discerning of Spirits. The reason we group them together is all three of them are a type of revelation from God, and very often Christians will experience all three at the same time, and so we want to navigate through that. I'm going to move because of the sun. I keep forgetting. Let me see here. Okay. So they're all similar, and then the first thing we want to recognize is all three of these gifts of revelation are supernatural. Wisdom is not a spiritual gift. It's a word of wisdom. Knowledge is not a spiritual gift. Any person can open a book and get knowledge. It is a word of knowledge. Okay? So let's start with the first one. Word of wisdom is clearly defined as supernatural direction. This is for a Christian that's in a pickle. When you're in a tough bind, you don't know what to do, you don't know where to go, or maybe you're not in a pickle.

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Maybe you've been praying for God's abundant blessing, and all of a sudden, boom, you get this stamp, that's kind of how God speaks to us. It's not like audible words. You get like a stamp where you go, this is what I'm supposed to do, and it just poof, and you know where you're supposed to go. Solomon received this gift many times. I actually believe that King Solomon was not very wise. I don't think Solomon was a wise person and this is because when you look at the end of his life, he is the reason that the kingdom collapsed. He lived at the end of his life in great disobedience to God. He created altars to Molech and other gods and sacrificed children to them. And he came under God's curse and wickedness, and everything fell apart because of Solomon. But I believe that the wisdom that we read about in the Bible that Solomon received was not his own kind of wisdom, but it was these words of wisdom. This is just Bobby talking now, okay, so maybe I'm wrong, but I think that he was receiving, according to his request and according to God's promise, right? Because God can't undo what He says. Even if you mess up, He's still going to do what He said. So God said He'd give him this wisdom, so when key times happened, God was imparting wisdom to him that led to incredible wealth. There's one story where two women come before the king. They both had a baby, and one of the babies died. So they brought the living baby to the king, and both women claimed that baby was theirs. And Solomon says.. I mean what would you do in that scenario if you hadn't read the story or seen Seinfeld, right? He says to them, okay, here's what you do. Take the baby, cut it in half, and give one half to each of them. And one woman says, yep, that's the right thing to do. You cut it in half and I'll take my half. If we can't have it, then no one can have it, or whatever. And the second one says, no, no, no. Give the baby to her! Give the baby to her. It's okay. And then Solomon says, that's the mother, right? So where did that come from? That, to me, seems like so brilliant. You could stay up all night and not think of something like that. Is that right? Boom. Just hits them like that. That's probably the gift of wisdom, word of wisdom being activated in his life. Paul, when he's on a missionary journey, is instructed by the spirit don't go to Asia. We don't know why. Never says why. The Holy Spirit said it, so they didn't go. True story. Years ago, I was serving in Germany. I was in college, and I was working with David Mains and a Canadian team in Germany. Very international. David was a great man of God in Canada before he passed not too long ago. But he had both a secular and a Christian television network, and I was working for his secular network and he asked me to go out to Israel and tape some things. Now, I had been to Israel before. I was not scared of it. My mom had been to Israel before, but when I was talking to her on the phone from Germany, mentioning this to her, she said, I feel like I received a word from God - don't go to Israel. And when she said that to me, I was like, that's right. Now that's from God. Now see, that's a good way also to know if it's from the spirit. Very often somebody will say that to you. Maybe it's manipulative. You don't feel it in your heart. You can just slap it down, as we said a couple weeks ago, just slap it down, it's fine. But to me, it was very solidly confirmed in my heart - that's from God. And David, who was kind of my boss and friend, was kind of pressuring me. He's like, you'll be safe. It'll be fine. You should go. We really want you to do the taping. You just go in and out. You'll just be there for a couple days. It won't be very long. And this went on for a couple days, and he finally said, okay. I kid you not, just a week after this, the intifada, which is the big revolution in Israel, began. The whole country was locked down, and our camera crew that was in Bethlehem, was stuck in the studio for several months. Isn't that unbelievable? Now, they were fine, but I'm a dummy. I'm the kind of guy that's like, let's just go out there and run while waving the American flag. I don't know what would have happened to me, but here's what I know - through a word of wisdom, God protected me through another believer, my mom, in this case, to not go. And I was saved from some kind of bad thing. Is that right? Business people you can receive a word of wisdom from God. Many of you, you'll have these dramatic breakthroughs in your business because you're praying and asking for God to guide you. It may not make sense at the time, but you'll see down the road if you begin to be obedient, that God will give this to you, especially if you're generous to His kingdom. If you're not generous, it won't happen no matter how much you pray, because you're in disobedience. But if you're giving to God's kingdom, and you know the purpose of your business is to grow His kingdom, God will freely give you these words of wisdom. All right, we got it? (AUDIENCE – yes) Word of wisdom. Number two: word of knowledge. A word of knowledge is supernatural information or insight. There might be a time where you're walking in the Spirit and you go boom, bing, you understand something about a person, something about your situation, it's like a data point. Peter, for example, receives a word of knowledge when God appears to him and opens up this thing with unclean animals and says to him, eat. And what does Peter say? I cannot. I cannot eat. I'm a Jew. It's unclean. And God says, do not call unclean what I have called clean.

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And this is God revealing to Peter that the Gentiles will be a part of this kingdom thing of the church. Isn't that great? That's a word of knowledge. Or Ananias and Sapphira, who have withheld money from land that they sold, that they promised to the church, and then they lied to the Holy Spirit. God reveals to Peter, they're withholding. It was just a word of knowledge, information. Some of you, you may have received a dream. You just received in a dream some information. Ryan Pineda, who had this great revival event yesterday. Was anybody there yesterday at the revival event? Okay. Anyway, one person, okay, great. Welcome. It was awesome. And one of the things he said, he's like, one of the reasons God speaks to us in dreams is because we have to listen. It's good, isn't it? So a word of knowledge can be seeing a stronghold in someone's life, it can be God leading you a specific way to pray, or it can be something like you recognize that the person you're ministering to has an idol or some kind of history of witchcraft in them. You pray over somebody that has that kind of an altar in their life, you're probably praying the wrong way. You need to see and rebuke the spirit of witchcraft, and so God will, in a word of knowledge, reveal that to you so you know how to pray for the person. Okay, in review, the difference between a word of knowledge and a word of wisdom is this: wisdom is direction, knowledge is information. Wisdom says, go or don't go. Knowledge says, see. Word of wisdom says do. Word of knowledge says, understand. Got it? You can see how similar they are, but they're different. Last one, and boy, is this an important one: the discerning or discernment of Spirits. The discernment of Spirits is seeing into the supernatural realm. I think there are some people who are born naturally with a little bit of this gift, and very often somebody who has that can be tormented in life because they're hearing from the spirit world. It's like a radio that's picking up a signal it's not supposed to pick up, and they don't know what to do with it, and it drives them crazy. Probably a lot of people who are drug addicts have something like this, and they can't put a finger on it. Maybe they're not specifically hearing a voice, but they're sensing deeply evil or they're sensing deeply holiness or goodness, and they have no guidance. So this type of person can accidentally wander into the new age or into witchcraft or into something like that, or just get into drugs. It's very common. But the good news for a person like that is they may have also received from the Holy Spirit a discernment of spirits. Now, if you're in God's kingdom, this is an incredible gift because you can see what's happening in the spirit realm and have greater power. Remember, discernment of spirits is not just seeing bad stuff, it's seeing good stuff, too. You can see where the spirit is moving, and you can sense when a place is holy or when a place is evil. Most places are neutral, but there are holy places, sacred places where the Holy Spirit dwells. Like, this is a Holy Spirit place. Can you feel it? The Holy Spirit dwells in this place, and in fact, I even sensed this morning when we were worshiping that there was an even heavier, in a good way, heavier presence or thicker presence of the Holy Spirit. The Bible says the Holy Spirit hovers, and I think that thickness was just because the last couple of day's people were in here praying and worshiping, and so that there's like a leftover blessing that's in the house that's common for everyone. And I even feel like when I go by, if I'm just like driving from the freeway to California Pizza Kitchen, I drive by our church, I sense a drawing. You may sense that, too, a drawing, or when I'm leaving, a kind of oh, I don't want to go. And that's the Holy Spirit touching your spirit. But of course, the Spirit goes with you everywhere. So there's holy places. This happened, too, when Hannah and I bought our house, we were looking at houses, we walked in this one particular house, the one we ended up buying, and we both looked at each other and went, whoa, what is that? The Lord is here. Like, we could just sense.. there was no crosses or anything, we could just sense, wow, God's presence is here. We really sense and feel God's presence. We were discerning in the spirit the presence of God. Came to find out only a couple days later that the guy selling the house was a pastor, Pastor Brian from St. Andrews Pres, who's now the pastor at Trinity, and when we met his wife, when we did buy the house, she said, 'there's been a lot of prayer in this house.' Isn't that good news, that we can change. I have a friend of mine who's in business. He says he has a building, and a lot of the religious people keep saying the building feels evil. I said, probably is. I'll bring my guitar down there, my guitar, we'll have some worship, we'll cast it out, we'll rebuke it, take authority and clean house. Is that right? Like Ghostbusters for Jesus? Okay? Now in reality, on this trip in Thailand, I vividly remember this is the first time I had a clear discerning in the spirit. We were called to pray over this wicked place, and as we were walking, I have never done drugs in my life, but if I were tripping, this is what I think tripping would be like. But I could see very clearly in the spirit that it was like there was this dark evil cloud-type thing on the ground, and as we were walking, us who were praying, it was like (POOF) like it was fleeing (POOF) like that. And it greatly encouraged me and our group to see that our prayer was having great effect over a curse that had been placed on that place.

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When we talked to a guy later, he said, when this town was founded, a witch came on behalf of, I don't know, some local guy or king or something, they dug four holes: north, south, east and west. They put a slave in each hole and they dropped a pillar on the slave as a human sacrifice, as a blessing over the town. Right? It's disgusting. But that had been a long, long time ago, but in the spirit, it was still there. And so as the kingdom of God was present in our bodies and everywhere we were going, it was just running away. No! This wicked spirit. And we brought a new light and life to that town. So again, all of these things: the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, and the discernment of spirits are the three gifts, they're like a triangle, three gifts of revelation, oftentimes they happen all at the same time, but sometimes they're independent of each other, and they're God revealing something to us, and that's important supernaturally. A supernatural revelation. Okay? Remember, the Holy Spirit is like a dove, the Bible says. It's like a dove. People are worried that the Holy Spirit's going to knock them over, control them. That's what demons do. Okay? The Holy Spirit does not act that way. It's literally like a dove. If a dove lands on your shoulder and you do this, it's going to fly away and never come back. If you don't want a dove to land on you, it won't. Is that right? You have to almost kind of like be very still, and you have to be meek and gently allow the spirit to come upon you. We used to teach, when we were training, the Holy Spirit is a gentleman. You have to invite the Holy Spirit to be the presence in your life. He doesn't force. We have to ask Him to speak. We have to invite Him to show us. If you don't want the Holy Spirit, if you don't want these gifts, you won't get them. Don't worry. You've got to gently and meekly receive the gifts that God wants to give you. Amen? Okay, so we'll finish with this. The prophet Samuel, when he was a boy and he was being mentored, and his mentor told him that when God speaks to you, this is what you say. He said, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." So let's say this together. If you want to receive the gift of wisdom, the word of wisdom, a word of knowledge, or the discernment of spirits, what you're asking for is supernatural revelation through the Holy Spirit, but you have to ask for it. You have to invite it. So I'm going to ask you to open your spirit. You too at home or driving around, open your spirit. Say this with me: Speak, Lord, your servant is listening. One more time: Speak, Lord, your servant is listening. Okay, one more time: Speak, Lord, your servant is listening. Now keep a listening spirit as you go, and you'll find maybe this week you'll get a nice little seed, a little gift from the Lord go bing. I think that's the word of wisdom. Bing. I think I'm seeing something in the spirit. And act on it. Okay? Don't grieve the spirit. If He gives you a gift, receive it. Stand with me, church. Thank you, Lord, that your presence is here, that your Holy Spirit is present in the house. We meekly and full of faith and even full of excitement, just children are excited to receive gifts, we are excited to receive your gifts, Lord. We're thankful for what the word of God says for us today, and we ask God that we would receive it. Lift your hands with me. We're going to receive these gifts. High. Lord, we receive your gifts. We receive all of them and all that you would want for us. We thank you that all the gifts of the spirit are led by love. And so we just ask again, speak, Lord, your servant is listening. We're listening. And we thank you, God, that with you we can do all things. Thank you that your Holy Spirit is present. And so we receive a word, even for small things like where we should go on vacation, and what we should buy, and who we should talk to. We just believe you can lead us in everything, and we're grateful, God. We thank you and we love you and we pray in the strong name of Jesus, all God's people said, amen.

BENEDICTION – Bobby Schuller

And now the Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you His peace in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, amen.