

### **GOOD MORNING/INVOCATION – Bobby & Hannah**

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

HS: It is a great day and we are happy to be with you here. Jesus the miracle worker is in this place today and He sees you and He loves you and He's for you, and we love you, too. Thank you for being here.

BS: Amen. We are glad you're here. We're believing that the Holy Spirit is going to move among us today. We're actually talking in the third or fourth part of our thing on the spiritual gifts, and so today we really want to prepare our hearts because this is a touchy subject, but it's something that can change our lives. A big part of receiving the Holy Spirit is stirring up the gift that's within us. We want to prepare our hearts for worship now. Let's do that. Father, we just accept and are grateful for the fact that your Holy Spirit is here among us. You affirmed that wherever two or more are gathered, ask anything in my name and it will be given to you. So, Lord, in the power of the agreeing and gathering of saints, we're asking you now, we're asking for your Holy Spirit. We're asking for a move of your power. We're asking for the forgiveness of sins. We're asking for healing. We're asking for provision. We thank you that you hear us. And so we respond in faith, with joy, saying, thank you, Lord, that your Holy Spirit is here, that your Word is available, and we receive it freely and with joy, in Jesus name, all God's people said, amen.

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

### **SCRIPTURE – Acts 2:1-4 – Hannah Schuller**

Let's feed our faith this morning with Acts 2:1-4.

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly, a sound like a blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Thank you, Lord.

### **DECLARATION – Bobby Schuller**

Would you stand with me? We're going to say this creed together as we do every week. I'm going to encourage you in this moment to not make this a rote thing we do. This is an affirmation of the gospel of Jesus Christ. That when we were lost, Jesus paid it all. That He gave His life on the cross for you and for me, so that we could live in victory. Victory over sin, victory over the grave. Victory over sickness and despair and every wicked spirit that would want to draw us down. We live in victory, Amen?

So we want to open our hearts, our spirits, and receive from the Lord in this way. Hold your hands like this as a way of receiving. 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. 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. Amen!

### **MESSAGE – Bobby Schuller "Spiritual Gifts: Tongues, Interpretation, and Prophecy"**

Today's an exciting day. We're talking about tongues and prophecy. Of the charismatic gifts that are listed in the Bible, it seems like none has divided and hurt the church more than bad teaching and a bad understanding of speaking in tongues. And yet most churches, most Christian churches, believe that the gift of speaking in tongues is for today, but most churches don't practice it. They stay away from it because so many people have been bothered or wounded or driven by the church from it, and it's silly. None of that should happen, and I think it's the result of bad practice and bad teaching.

Let's make an agreement right now to not harden our hearts. Let's make an agreement, all of us, to not be stiff-necked about this, but to do what the scripture says: to understand it. In Corinthians, Paul says, I don't want you to be uninformed about the spiritual gifts, including tongues. In Mark 16, he says that those who believe will go out and will speak in tongues.

We need to understand as believers, if we believe, if we're scriptural people, we need to understand what it means for us today, not just tongues, but prophecy, which by the way, doesn't mean predicting the future. I always have to remember to say that.

I'm going to make a promise today that at the end of this sermon, I'll give you a way that you can put some of these things into practice in your own time, but first we have to lay the foundation scripturally for why these gifts are given to the church today, but I want you to stick with me, especially if you're watching on YouTube or television. We need to lay a foundation first before we talk about how to receive with confidence.

Let's just begin here. There is a list of all the spiritual gifts. I'm happy to send them to you. Just email and ask me for them on the email on the screen and we'll send it to you. It's just a simple PDF that talks about all the lists.

Are the spiritual gifts for today, yes or no? (AUDIENCE – yes) Do we need the spiritual gifts? (AUDIENCE – yes) Do we need the Holy Spirit? (AUDIENCE – yes) Okay, good.

The book of Acts is the best and really only Biblical history we have of the early church doing their thing, going to the nations. And if you were to take away from the book of Acts every chapter that had some spiritual gift in it, some working of the spirit or miracle, something that would be weird if it happened in the church today, you wouldn't have a book of Acts at all. Every chapter would be torn out. Did you know that? Many Christians, especially of the evangelical type, say, I'm an evangelical, I'm a Bible believing Christian because I want to live in the kind of church that existed in the first and second century. I want to be in an early church kind of church.

I'm here to tell you if you want to be in an early church kind of church, you want to be in a church that believes and practices the spiritual gifts. You want to be in a church that has miracle services like we had, where we had a deaf person that was healed. What was the other big one? Where a blind person saw. I was healed of deafness, by the way. I don't know if you guys knew that, in one of my ears.

We are a church that believes in miracles, in the power of the gifts, and that is because we want to be a church like that that existed in the scriptures. And in fact, if we're in the last days, the scripture says that there will be a pouring out of my Spirit in the last days. Is that right?

Who here wants the Holy Spirit? I do, too. Guess what? If you believe on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and are saved and baptized, you already have the Holy Spirit. Let's begin there. You already have the Holy Spirit if you believe on Jesus and are baptized. You already have it.

We see this in the Easter story. If you have your Bibles, turn with me to John, chapter 20. Okay, John, chapter 20. The disciples are waiting. Mary Magdalene has seen the risen Lord, and the disciples are hiding. The doors are locked. They're afraid. Jesus appears to them and says, "Peace be with you." And in verse 21, it says, "Again, Jesus said, peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." Now what day is this? I just said it. Do you remember? It's Easter. This is Easter Sunday. Okay? So this is the day Jesus raised from the dead. And with that, what happened? He breathed on them. He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." So what do they receive when they receive the Holy Spirit? They receive authority, particularly authority to forgive sins. Don't overthink that. That's just what we're doing as believers when we baptize people and preach the gospel. We are affirming, not by our own power, but through Christ crucified that your sins are forgiven.

Now, that's why it's important that when you're baptized, you're baptized by somebody who's saved and full of the Holy Spirit, right? So that they actually have the authority to make sure that the gift of your baptism is true. But don't miss this fact that although they received the Holy Spirit in a powerful way in Acts chapter two, 50 days later, they already had the Holy Spirit. It was already given to them. What's happened here is effectively, this is where they got saved on Easter, Easter Sunday. They received their salvation, the transformation through the Holy Spirit. Is that right? So you received the Holy Spirit when you believed and were baptized?

If you need another passage, I don't know why you would, but let's just look at Acts chapter two. We're not going where you think we're going. Acts chapter 2 verse 38. This is at the end of Peter's sermon. He says, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will" what, (AUDIENCE – receive) "receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." When? What does it say? (AUDIENCE – when you repent) When you repent and are baptized in water. Amen?

Who here already has the Holy Spirit, let me see your hand. We've already got it. He's already in us. He's already indwelling inside of us. Thank you, Lord. Let's declare this together: My sins are forgiven (AUDIENCE – my sins are forgiven). The Holy Spirit lives in me (AUDIENCE – the Holy Spirit lives in me). That's good news. If the Holy Spirit lives in you, you can do anything that Jesus did, not in your own power and strength, but by the leading of the Spirit. You have the anointing upon you to heal the sick. You have the anointing upon you to prophesy. You have the anointing upon you to do any working of the gift that the wind of the Spirit of God leads you.

The natural question to all of you who have been students of the way for a long time, who have been Christians for your whole life, you might say, well, then, why did the Holy Spirit come upon them in Acts chapter two? Well, because even though you have the Holy Spirit within you, the Holy Spirit also comes upon believers all the time. Who here has experienced, way after your baptism, a special anointing of the Holy Spirit? Let me see your hand. That's right.

Let's talk about that just for a bit before we talk about speaking in tongues. So the Holy Spirit doesn't just come inside of you and live inside of you when you're baptized and forgiven, there's also a fresh anointing or a fresh move of the wind of the Spirit that happens for those who want it and who are open to it. And it really comes upon us in power to do ministry, to serve others. The gifts are always led by love. They're always led by the gospel. So the power of the gifts of the Spirit is to edify the church, to break chains, to bring freedom and to help us. Right?

In Acts chapter two; now this is just for your edification. It's not super important. Acts chapter two, when the disciples were full of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues, that actually didn't happen in the upper room. The upper room is in Acts chapter one, and the reason there's some confusion on this is in Acts chapter two, at the beginning, it says, "and the whole house." Now in Hebrew, the word for temple is "house." The word for temple is "house." So house is a correct translation, but it's referring to the house of the Lord. We know that, in fact, for two other reasons. How many people were saved? Do you remember? On the day of Pentecost, how many people were saved? Anybody remember? Three thousand. By the way, that's the same amount of people who were killed at Sinai for breaking the law. So it's inverting that death. It's kind of cool. But how would you get three thousand people in an upper room? It happened at the temple. And then it says at the very end, they continued to meet at the temple every day, so it's in the temple. It doesn't matter, but it's interesting for you students.

So they're in Acts chapter two, they're celebrating the feast of weeks, which is a Jewish celebration of when the law, the Torah, is given to the Israelites, so they're being given the Holy Spirit in a new way. The law is coming inside of them. And this word for the spirit is pneuma. Everybody say pneuma (AUDIENCE – pneuma). And we've talked about it twice.

I will be shocked if any of you in this service get it. Now, I know the choir will get it in the second service and choir, that's fine with me. We'll play along. We'll pretend that you knew.

But for those of you in the first service, pneuma means spirit, but you can also translate it two other ways. Anybody want to take a guess? Pneumo. It can be spirit or what else can it be? Wind. Who got that? John von Wolzogen. Way to go, John. Wind, and there's one other. Who can remember? It's similar to wind. (HANNAH – breath) Breath, Hannah, and I heard somebody else over here. Fernando. The all-star team. Fernando, Hannah and John von Wolzogen. Okay.

Pneuma can mean spirit, but it can also mean wind, and it can also mean breath. And it's important to understand that, because the Holy Spirit is like breath, like you have when you breathe. The ruach Elohim in Hebrew is.. the breath of God is what is blown into Adam and Eve to receive the Spirit and come alive. So breath is good. Can you breathe right now? But is there still oxygen outside of you? There is. Can you have wind inside your house if you turn on a fan? Can you also have wind outside? Okay.

Can you have the Spirit of God within you? Can you also have the Spirit of God outside of you blowing upon you? Yes, you can. And this is what happens in Acts chapter 2. So you receive the Spirit in your salvation, but a special witness or power, or whatever you want to say, anointing of the Holy Spirit, fresh wind of the Holy Spirit comes upon us when we need it.

This happens to Elijah when the Spirit of God comes upon him and he runs past Ahab's chariot. This happens to David and his mighty men when they're fighting. This happens to Cornelius in Acts chapter 10, when they're gathering and all the Gentiles speak in tongues. These are people that have the Spirit already, but the Spirit comes upon them in a fresh way.

Can I even tell you I was talking to somebody in our small group that sometimes when I play piano in worship, I play in the Spirit. Now, I don't know if that's Biblical, but I think it is. There's a certain way I play during worship when the Spirit is moving that I can't play on my own, and it drives me crazy. I want to be able to play that way all the time. If I try to record it, it also doesn't work. I just have to let loose and receive from the Lord. Do you believe me that that might be from the Spirit? I think it might be because it only happens when I'm worshiping. And boy, there are other things that are maybe not in the Bible, that the Spirit will lead you and help you when you need it.

Turn with me to Ephesians, chapter 5. It's important that we understand that even though we have the Holy Spirit, we can receive the Holy Spirit, also. Ephesians chapter 5 verse 18. Before we read this, why do people get drunk? It's a good question. Why do people get drunk? Why do you think? The answer is comfort. I think so much of addiction that we face in life is from frustration. A wife who's married and her husband is cheating on her, and she knows, but she sticks with him, has this frustration. A man who was abused as a child and can't connect with people has a frustration driving them. People who had a super stressful day and a hard day and they just feel like they can't win at life, have frustration in their life. Is that right?

What do we do when we're frustrated? How do we get our comfort? Sometimes we get drunk. Some people go to drugs, some people go to the wrong person. There's seven ways.. some people go to the fridge. Some people go to television. Some people go to video games.

The question of how do we get our comfort is an important one for how do we live a happy life? Where's the best place to get our comfort? Somebody say the Holy Spirit.

(AUDIENCE - the Holy Spirit) The Holy Spirit. Where those other things are good things, but too much of them can bring death. You cannot get too much of the Holy Spirit. Can I get an amen? (AUDIENCE – amen) He comforts us, right? He's the comforter. You're having a stressful day, you turn to the Holy Spirit. Okay. Okay.

The Bible verse. Ephesians, chapter 5:18, "Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be" what? Say it. (AUDIENCE – filled) "Filled with the Spirit." Yes! Filled with the Spirit. "Speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, songs from the Spirit." What's a song from the Spirit? I think we did it this morning. "Sing and make music with your heart to the Lord." We already did that, didn't we? Anybody find comfort in worship this morning? I know I did. Yes. Thank you, Lord, for that. Thank you, musicians and choir for that gift.

Here's what we want to see. He's talking to Christians. He's talking to people that already have the Holy Spirit, and He is saying, if they already have it, how can they.. right? If they already have it, how can they.. what does it say? "Be filled with the Spirit.." if they already have the Spirit, how can they be filled with the Spirit if they already have it? And the answer is, they drink of it like you would drink wine. Right? Is that right or wrong? Don't drink wine, drink the Spirit. Amen?

This is wonderful. We can drink of the Spirit. What a wonderful promise. When we are frustrated, we can drink of the Spirit. We can take a big drink. We can take a big drink of the Spirit.

If you have your Bibles, turn with me to 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, chapter one. Here's another way of saying it. I don't know why I always have a tough time finding Timothy. Second Timothy, I mean. First Timothy is easy, but Second Timothy always gives me a hard time.

All right, 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, chapter six. "For this reason, I remind you." Who does He remind? Somebody, say, me (AUDIENCE – me). He reminds me to do what (AUDIENCE – to fan into flame) "to fan into flame the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit" what does it say? "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline."

This word, "fan into flame." Let me ask you this question. Who fans it into flame? Who? (AUDIENCE - we do) We do. Notice how God doesn't fan us into flame. We fan the fire. We. You. It's a commandment. Fan it into flame. Fan it into flame. You do it. Now, you're not the flame, but you can do some fanning, is that right?

I remember once I was asked, what is the Holy Spirit like? And I said, so it's a lot like in your baptism, you receive a pilot light and you receive a gas pipe. That's all you get. It's your job to turn it on. Anybody have those fireplaces at home? Now, at any time, you can turn it on, but you've got to turn it on. Is that right? You have to turn it on. And this is what it's like.

You received the Holy Spirit in your baptism, and you also received this pipe to the Lord that anytime you need to, you can turn it on. This is an encouragement to us. If you need comfort, if you need power, if you need life, fan into flame the gift of God. The King James translation of this says, stir up the gift. Stir up the gift.

Pastor friends of ours in Houston, Texas, I remember the pastor's wife had this great analogy. She said, 'stirring up the gift is like when you make chocolate milk and you take one sip and then the kids are doing something, so you put your chocolate milk in the fridge. You forget about it. A couple hours later, you come back and what happened to the chocolate milk?' It separated, right? You got a little bit of Hershey's at the bottom and the milk on the top. Somebody likes to use Nestle. That's gross. You got to go name brand. Spend the extra quarter. You mix it up. Right? You stir it up. Now you got chocolate milk again.

Who knows we can stir up the gift of God that was within us. Even if you don't feel it, even if you've been a little cold sitting in the fridge for a while, we can stir up the gift. Declare with me: I fan into flame (AUDIENCE – I fan into flame) the gift of God (AUDIENCE – the gift of God). Now let's just begin to thank the Lord. Thank you, God (AUDIENCE – thank you, God). Someone say, hallelujah (AUDIENCE – hallelujah). Someone say, there's no name above the name of Jesus (AUDIENCE – there's no name above the name of Jesus).

Someone say, thank you, Lord, for the victory (AUDIENCE – thank you, Lord, for the victory). Now, those of you who participated in that, you felt that. You felt that. Not all of us participated, and that's okay, but in order to fan the flame, you got to practice. In order to have victory, you have to do something. There's living faith and dead faith, James tells us. Living faith is the faith that does something. Dead faith is the faith that believes and does nothing. So all of us believe. Even Satan believes, but then some of us believe and do. All right, you ready to get deeper? Okay. The vocal gifts that are described in the scripture are tongues, the interpretation of tongues and prophecy. Now, tongues and prophecy are pretty much the same thing, except that tongues, nobody understands it, and prophecy, everybody understands it. Tongues, unless they're interpreted is for you, but prophecy is for the church, or for the people that are there. So let's talk about tongues first.

I've told this story before, but it's probably been some time about the time I first spoke in tongues. I was a young guy at Indian Village, which is a young life camp for teenagers and older children. And it's Indian themed so you wear moccasins and you make bows and arrows. It's really fun.

I remember one night, our youth pastor was there, and we were all sleeping in a teepee, all the boys, and he was reading from Acts chapter two. And I was the only one awake, and I was really listening. I was going through a tough time in my life. My parents are divorced, and we were having some challenges. I'd been moving around a lot and just the challenges that any kid faces in life. And he said, Bobby, I noticed that you're really listening. Do you want to receive this gift? And I was like, yes, I want to receive that gift. We went outside of the teepee. We sat on this big boulder. He laid his hands on me, and he prayed that I'd be filled with the Holy Spirit, and I began speaking in tongues. What was amazing, it was very quiet at first, but then I began to get louder and louder, and I had the most unbelievable spiritual experience of my life that has really informed my whole life. I've never been able to disconnect. Even in my sort of lost days, I had this deep connection to this event where I described it later, that it was like I got a hug from Jesus, but I really felt like I was in just a white room for just a few seconds, and I just felt this immense love of God, just such an encouragement and joy in just God's life.

It really only felt like a few seconds, and finally, this guy shakes me out of this state I was in and says, Bobby, we've been out here three or four hours. We need to go to bed. My voice was hoarse, and I was still speaking in tongues. Now, that makes some of you uncomfortable. But let me tell you that I don't know what happened there, because what was so strange about it was how quickly time passed. But I remember everything so vividly. I remember where the boulder was. I remember the teepee. I remember the guy. I remember the stars. It was a clear night. I remember it was a little chilly. And I just remember everything about it.

And can I tell you that sometimes we need God to pray for us. There are some times where we need to get our head out of the way and let God do the praying. That's what tongues is. It's a heavenly language. It sounds ridiculous and silly, just like any weird language would if you didn't understand it. And so I'm thankful for that.

This is what tongues is in a scripture. Tongues is an inversion of the Tower of Babel. You might remember that in the story of the Tower of Babel, God confused their speech so they would be divided into different nations. Tongues is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit that draws us together. Draws us together. And there's two really main manifestations of tongues in the Bible and today. One is it's a secular, actual miracle language that is there to testify to unbelievers that God is really here. Isn't that interesting? Yes, it is? Yes or no? (AUDIENCE – yes)

One clever story I heard a British pastor was talking. This is back in the 1940s, but he was preaching, and as he's preaching, he's about to give an altar call, one guy stands up in the middle of the service and begins speaking in tongues, which the Bible prohibits.

And so he's feeling a little frustrated, and then all of a sudden, another guy says, 'why is he calling out all of my sins?' Now this guy who was given inspiration from the Lord, was speaking Welsh, which is very niche, unknown language. But the other gentleman, a young man who spoke English, also spoke Welsh fluently, and the guy who was standing, who didn't speak Welsh, was calling out the Welsh guy's sins in another language. Isn't that interesting? And it took 10/15 minutes or so to convince this young guy that the other guy didn't know Welsh at all. And that, in fact, nobody in the building even knew the sins that he was declaring. Who wants something like that in our church? That happens sometimes.

Now, the other manifestation, and the more common is just a heavenly language that sounds like gibberish, but it's not. And it is just something you can do. You can turn it on and you can pray in this way, and you just receive a fresh wind of the spirit. Hannah was recently saying that she was sort of touched by the Lord in this way. And she was feeling frustrated and tired, and then she just began to pray in tongues, and she just felt refreshed.

There's no reason to make it weird. If you don't want tongues, you don't need tongues. You don't need to have it, but it's a wonderful gift that can use refreshing. Who wants some refreshing? Sometimes we get tired and we need the Lord. And who even knows when you're praying, you could be saying the names of people, you could be calling out strongholds, you could be sending angels or doing various things. So that's a good thing. We'll just go real quickly through how to receive this gift in your own time if you want to practice it. I'm going to ask if you're watching on YouTube to timestamp this so people can click it and come back to it and watch it later. And by the way, I'm definitely going to lose subscribers over this sermon, so if you're not subscribed, please subscribe to bring balance to the force.

All right, here's number one. If you want to receive the gift of tongues, you have to want it. You have to be thirsty for it. You have to desire it. The Holy Spirit is like a dove. If you don't want a dove to land on your shoulder, I promise you it won't land on your shoulder. When we think of tongues, we often think of it as a demonic manifestation. Demons possess. Demons take over. Demons strangle. They grab. God never does that. The Holy Spirit never dominates. He's like a dove. Never dominates. If you ever feel you're being taken over and you didn't want to, that's not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is invited. You have to open the door. You have to want the Spirit and He gently moves within you like a dove. Luke 11, verse 11 says, "If you ask for good gifts from your Father, he'll give it to you. How much more will he give you the Holy Spirit?" So you have to want it.

Number two: you have to come to the baptizer. Who's the baptizer in the Holy Spirit? (AUDIENCE – Jesus) Jesus. Only Jesus Christ can give you this gift. So you have to ask for it from Him.

Number three: you have to drink of the living water. You have to drink. So if you're doing this in your own private time, another way of saying that is just take a big breath in. Just (BREATHE IN) breathe in. So what's another name for Spirit? (HANNAH – breath) Breath, wind. You breathe in the Holy Spirit.

And then number four: you release the outflow. By the way, this is from Derek Prince. I don't want to take credit from him, but you release the outflow. And you have to participate it. I've never seen anybody receive the gift of tongues with a closed mouth. You got to open your mouth, you got to let it fly. And so I would encourage you, if you're at home, just nobody around, or if you know somebody who has the gift, ask them to lay hands on you and pray for you and you may receive this gift.

Those of us who speak in tongues, here are two objections you're going to get from Satan all the time. Number one, you're doing it yourself. You're doing it yourself. My guess is if everybody in here spoke in tongues on a regular basis and asked, how many times have you heard, 'you're doing it yourself,' every hand would go up.

And the truth is, you are doing it yourself. The Bible doesn't say God's going to take over your tongue and make you do it. Again, that's demonic, right? That's not what the Holy Spirit does. In the same way that when I'm teaching, I'm doing it myself, but that's a spiritual gift. I'm doing it under the utterance of the Holy Spirit. When I lay hands on the sick, it's God who does the healing, but I got to do the laying on of hands. Is that right? And in all of the gifts, even generosity is a spiritual gift. Never once in my life have I heard a pastor say, 'I don't want your gift. You were writing that check yourself.' Of course you wrote the check yourself, but it was a spiritual gift. You were inspired by the Spirit to do it. And when you speak in tongues, you are doing it yourself. So if Satan says that to you, 'you're just doing it yourself,' your response is, you're quite right, Satan. The Holy Spirit is giving me utterance, and I'm doing it myself. I hope somebody just got some freedom there.

And the second thing that he always says is, how do you know? How do you know you got the right thing? And we know in Luke, because of Luke, chapter 11, Jesus says to us, "if you ask for good gifts", that the Lord won't give you bad gifts. If you ask for it, He'll give it to you. Is that right?

I want to encourage you, if you're at home and you want this, to ask the Lord and He'll give it to you, and if you don't want it, then pray for your neighbor and pray for those who do want it and who need this gift. Amen?

Now I don't have a lot of time left to talk about prophecy, but I'll just touch on it real quick, and I don't know if we can do this, but we have a podcast on Wednesday's and I will speak more on prophecy in our podcast. But just real quickly, prophecy.. don't make it weird. Prophecy is just sharing something that God brings to mind. Prophecy is sharing something that God brings to mind.

I find that very often prophecy comes either as an image or as a word. And I find that that tends to be a personality, so that people who are more sort of artistic like to receive an image, and people that are more left-brained and analytical like to receive a word.

A good example, my sister Brittany; I didn't ask for permission, but I'm taking it, received a prophetic word, and it was about a fish with scales that were like sequins when you go back and forth, and so in our group, as we prayed, the Lord sort of helped reveal to us what the message was. But you see it was an image first. And she's relaying an image that the Lord put on her mind.

For others, I remember in high school, my senior year, we had a pastor that was also our Spanish pastor teacher that went to Fuller who received a prophetic word for me. He told me this thing that would happen, that I would be betrayed in this very weird way, and it was about 20 years later it happened. And where normally I would have been super discouraged, I had kind of forgotten about it. And then I went, whoa, Mr. Passmore told me this back in 1999! Thank you, Lord. I won't be discouraged and I'll keep going.

And if you want to operate in the gifts of prophecy, which by the way, it says that all of us are supposed to operate in that gift in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14, and you feel like the Lord is putting something on your heart to say to someone, but you're not sure, you just say, 'I feel like God is saying, is that okay,' 'I might be wrong, but I feel like God is saying,' and they might look to you and go, that's really weird. I don't know where that's coming from. And you go, okay, fine, and keep going. But you won't be surprised how often somebody goes (BREATHE IN) you're like, I feel like God is saying that there's a bell with a this and a that or whatever and it sounds so off the wall, and the person goes (SIGHS) and starts crying, that's cool. So you want to be a church that prophesies? Yes. Three people here want to be a church that prophesies. I agree with them.

God speaks to us. We can hear God's voice. Amen. We can hear. We don't need to make it weird. We can hear from God about our lives and about each other.



Stand with me. Now, if you felt an unction to.. we're not going to do it in church now, but if you felt an unction to speak in tongues, I want to encourage you to go back and watch the video in your own quiet time, practice it or speak with a pastor and we're happy to help you with it.

But for now, what we're really trying to get at, and this is the end of the charismatic gifts teaching, is that the Holy Spirit moves in all sorts of gifts: gifts of miracles, gifts of prophecy, and if we're a church that operates in these gifts, we don't need gimmicks. We don't need dramas. We like all the lights and the cameras and things, but we don't need any of that stuff. People need the Lord and they need more than just a one-time event. They need them all the time.

And so we want to be a church that drinks of the Spirit. Is that right? We want to drink of the Spirit. We want to fan into flame the gift of God. When we need comfort, we don't want to turn to those other things we used to turn to, we want to drink and drink of the Lord. Is that right?

Let's just put that into practice now. This is something all of us can do, which is just worshipping the name of the Lord. Would you lift your hands like this with me? This is a humiliating thing to do, and it's like that for a reason. It humbles the person, and this is our way of Lord just saying, we submit our souls, our bodies and our lives to you. There is no one and never has been and never will be anyone like Jesus Christ. Thank you, Lord that you laid down your life on the cross for us. We are set free from sin. We are set free from bondage. We are delivered from the enemy. We are healed of our sicknesses and diseases. We stand in power on the authority of Christ crucified. You have handed us the blood of Jesus. We apply the blood. We apply the blood to the doorposts of our hearts. We apply the blood to our mind. We apply the blood to our soul and we thank you that Satan has no authority wherever the blood is. We thank you, Lord. We trust in you and we thank you for your Holy Spirit, and it's in Jesus name we pray, all God's people said, amen.