

THE GIFT OF  
ENCOURAGEMENT  
PART II

Speaker Valerie Copeland

## 1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-7, 11 The Voice

*[The Spirit chooses where to impart gifts as He works together with the Father and the Son to build up the church.]*

12 Now let me turn to *some issues about spiritual gifts*, brothers and sisters. There's much you need to learn.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are many kinds of *grace gifts*, but they are all from the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> There are many different ways to serve, but *they're all directed by* the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are many amazing working gifts in the church, but it is the same God who energizes them all in all *who have the gifts*. <sup>7</sup> Each believer has received a gift that manifests the Spirit's *power and presence*. That gift is given for the good of the whole community.

<sup>11</sup> One Spirit works all these things in each of them individually as He sees fit.

## Romans 12:6-8 The Voice

Since our gifts vary depending on the grace poured out on each of us, it is important that we exercise the gifts we have been given. If prophecy is your gift, then speak as a prophet according to your proportion of faith. If service is your gift, then serve well. If teaching is your gift, then teach well. If you have been given a voice of ENCOURAGEMENT, then use it often. If giving is your gift, then be generous. If leading, then be eager to get started. If sharing God's mercy, then be cheerful in sharing it.

In this story, we see all of the elements of encouragement.

- LOVE
  - Jesus shows caring commitment (relationship)
- TRUTH (correction and/or redirection)
  - God revealed: Jesus shows them himself by pointing out his wounds
  - He redirects their focus
- PRESENCE
  - He meets them at their place of need; He shows up
- ACTION
  - He commissions them

- ACTING SUPERNATURALLY is exercising the gifts that the Spirit has poured into us
- You don't have to become a SPIRITUAL PERSON, you are already
- God wants to operate through you in a way that is TANGIBLE, a way that people can see.

# Encouragement: Truth in the Context of Relationship



- We are motivated by **love** (desiring God's best for the person)
- We express genuine care by entering into a relationship: **coming alongside** him or her
- Our encouragement is centered in God's revealed **truth**. We present the revealed truth of God and help the person to see deviations from the Truth in understanding and behavior
- Our focus is on building the person up: strengthen and edify. Contributing to their **growth in following** Christ

I ENCOURAGE



What's your Super Power?



## YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF ENCOURAGEMENT

“If you have been given a voice of encouragement, then use it *often*.”

### Things you can do to get started

- Have someone pray with you about your gift
- Everyday, ask the Lord to open your eyes to those in need of encouragement
- Believe that the Holy Spirit is going to manifest His power and presence to help you encourage others
- Practice what you know (don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good)
- Learn about the gift of encouragement

## What does God tell us we should or shouldn't do regarding spiritual gifts?

- earnestly desire the gifts- serious in intention, purpose, or effort
- Paul tells Timothy to fan into flame the gifts of the Spirit - For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.
- don't quench the Holy Spirit – control, fear, unbelief, reasoning, negative/critical talk
- don't neglect the gifts of the Spirit



**I am  
with  
you.**

**I am  
listening  
to you.**

**I care  
about  
you.**

**I am  
praying  
for you.**

## Hebrews 10:24-25 (VOICE)

Let us consider how to inspire each other to greater love and to righteous deeds, *not* forgetting to gather as a community, as some have forgotten, but ENCOURAGING each other, especially as the day *of His return* approaches.