

**Heb. 10:16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.**

## Spiritual Gifts to Help Us Grow

There are many gifts that God has available to help us with our spiritual growth. The descriptions below are to guide us in knowing which gift we need at any particular time. If we need any of the helps described, we can ask our pastor and he/she will arrange for us to meet with someone who has that gift.

**Line upon line:** God gives gifts of being a **teacher** to help us learn about his word. We call this Bible study “line upon line” (Isa.28:10), because we study the scriptures line by line to learn their meaning. If we want line upon line classes, a pastor will pray about what book we should have, and God will reveal this to the pastor. Then we will be set up for class with a teacher who has had that book. The teacher will teach us, and we will “give back” what we were taught so that the teacher can see if we understood. If we have questions about what we have been taught, we can ask our teacher at that time. Regular line upon line classes will grow a body of information in our mind to help us fight evil and become a child of God.

**Discernment:** We should ask for discernment to help us sort out and find thoughts, feelings, attitudes and behaviors in our life that we want to change (Eze. 44:23). God wants to help us correct the wrong things in our lives and will teach us that everything we do or have done was first preceded by a thought/feeling that was planted in our mind. When we see a thought that is not of God, or say or do something we know God would not like, we need to seek help to find out why this has happened. We can prepare for discernment sessions by trying to get the clearest picture we can of what we said, did or thought. Then, when we confess on what we have done, discernment can help us see that it was evil spirits, not us that caused the wrong. Discernment will also help us see where this has happened before in our lives, and give us strategies to fight the evil spirits.

**Grace:** This is a gift of “laying on of hands” (Heb 6:1,2). We need prayer for grace to cast out evil spirits we are aware of in our life. We also need grace to provide the life for our spiritual body. We can pray for or “pull on” grace any time, and should have regular sessions at home where we pray for grace. But we should also ask for prayer for grace when we have had discernment, and to plant deeper grace in our minds so that we can grow in grace.

**Seeds:** This is a gift of “laying on of hands” (Heb 6:1,2). We need to get seeds of all of God’s phases of spirit planted in our minds. We can ask for a few each week. Once we have had prayer for a phase of spirit, we should have regular sessions in our own home where we pray for or “pull on” the phase of spirit. Sometimes discernment will suggest a phase of spirit we need to fight evil. If we have had prayer for that recently, then we need to pull on it more. If we have never had prayer for that, or if it has been a while, we can request prayer for that phase of spirit.

**Counsel:** God has gifts of counsel to help us make decisions about the various aspects of our lives (Exo.18:19). After we have worked with a gift of discernment to sort out our thoughts/feelings, counsel can help us with decisions. Types of counsel that we might ask for would be: personal counsel regarding relationships, situations that arise at our jobs, money management, time management or family counsel. It can also give us strategies and guidance for evangelism, and for the growth of our gifts and ministries. The gift of counsel is to let us know what God would have us to do in situations.

**Understanding:** We can seek help from a gift of understanding when we want to know more about God, beyond our line upon line study (Neh 8:2,8). Understanding can help us with questions such as God’s blueprint for creation and the various ways his spirit works. We can also ask for understanding when we have come into contact with a false doctrine.

**Healing:** This is a gift of “laying on of hands” (Heb 6:1,2). Gifts of healing are given to help people with physical problems. We can ask for healing when we feel a need of it, and those praying for us will ask God to give us the phases of spirit we need to heal that physical problem. Then we should pull on the phases of spirit so that they can do the work of healing our physical body.

**Interpretation of dreams:** God often gives people dreams to help them grow spiritually and to lead them as they grow (Dan 2:26-29). If we have a dream and want to know what it means, we can ask to have it interpreted. We can write the dream down or type it out, leaving lots of space between the lines so that an interpretation can be written in. If we give our dream to a pastor, then it will be given to someone who has this gift. Once the dream has been interpreted, it will be returned to us, and we can read it over and ask God to help us understand how it applies to our life. God will show us over the next week or so, or if we still have questions, we can go back to the person who interpreted the dream to ask them.

Also see: Eph. 4:11-15; Rom 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:1-31