

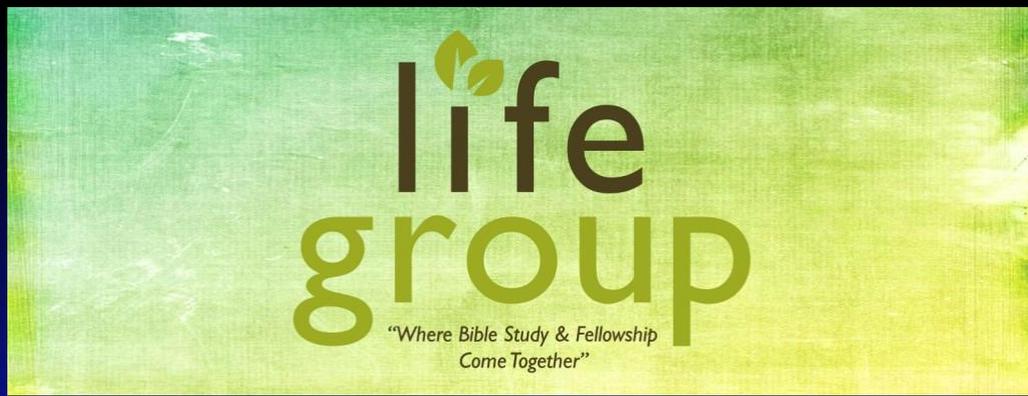
Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



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**Let's Prepare Our Hearts to Worship
our HOLY and AWESOME GOD**



LIFE Group ...

We are starting a new Series on Equipping the Saints for the Work of the Ministry (see Ephesians 4:11-16)

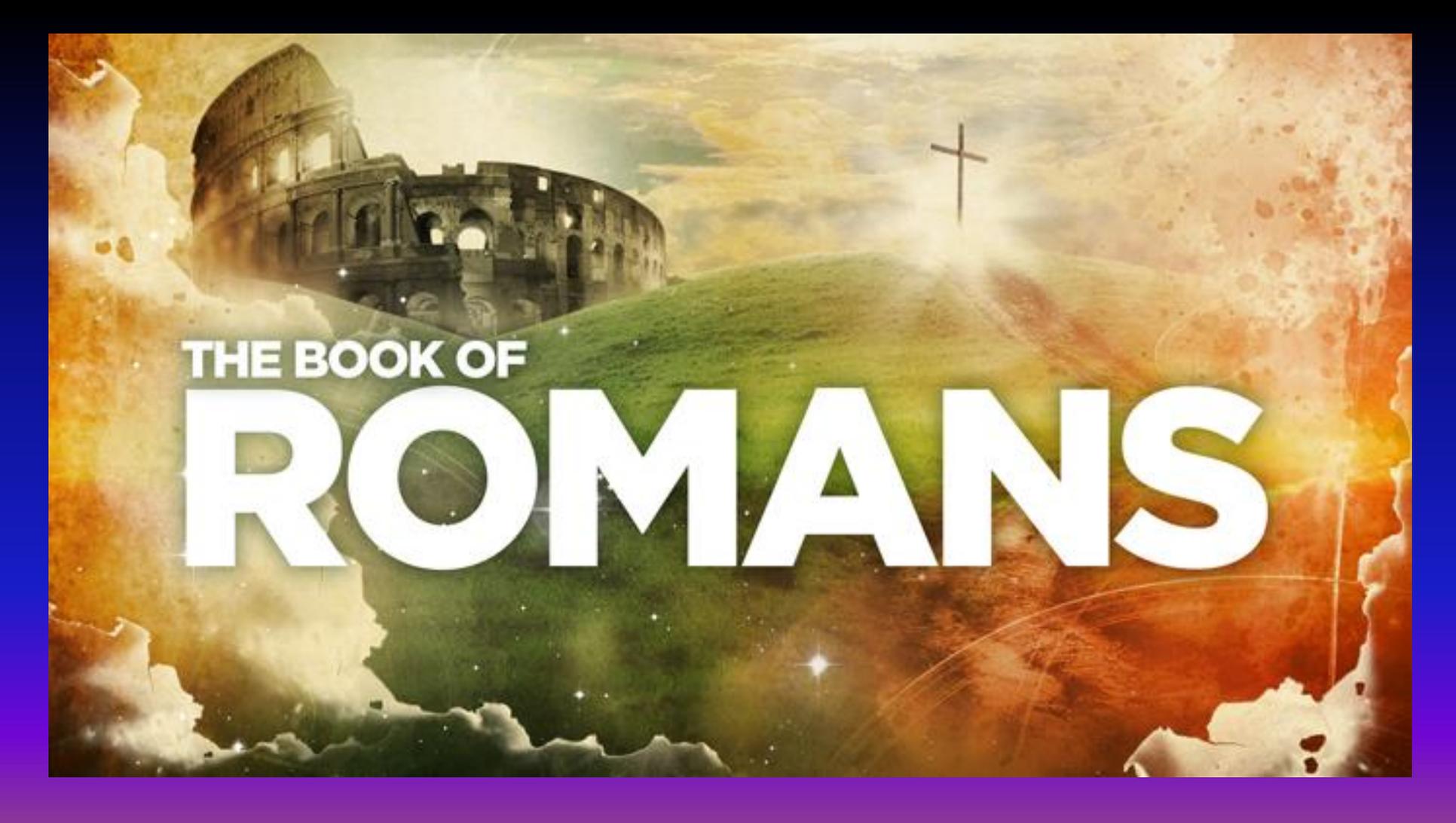
We'll be Equipped in the Gospel, know it & sharing it For the next several weeks ...

6:30 pm at the Thomas' home on Wed. evenings

Now let's Learn from God's Holy Word →



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THE BOOK OF

ROMANS

Foundations of Church for “Body Life Ministry” - 3

Romans 12:1-8

Therefore I **urge** (beg, beseech, plead with) you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies **A LIVING AND HOLY SACRIFICE**, acceptable to God, which is your **REASONABLE SPIRITUAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP**. ² And **DO NOT** be **CONFORMED** to this world, but be **TRANSFORMED** by the **RENEWING OF YOUR MIND**, so that you may **PROVE** what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

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³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you **NOT** to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with **SOBER JUDGMENT**, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and **INDIVIDUALLY MEMBERS ONE OF ANOTHER**. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, **LET US USE THEM**: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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What we learned in Parts 1&2:

1. Full Surrender to God to be a Living and Holy Sacrifice as a Worshiper of God ...

→ Living for God alone – Full Humility before God

2. Saturating our minds and hearts with God’s Word (renewing my mind) so that God can transform us ... we are no longer living for the world and its approval ... we are no longer allowing the world for press us into its mold (don’t be conformed to this world, any longer)

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What we learned in Parts 1&2:

3. Humility among our fellow believers - not to think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think

4. We, each, exist in the Body of Christ to serve others for Christ’s sake, for the Gospel’s sake

5. We, each, need to use the gifts God has given us for others, not to glorify ourselves, but to Glorify Christ – prayerfully & lovingly. (1 Peter 4:7-11)

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Based on 1 Peter 4:7-11 (focus on vs. 11)

We find that there are **TWO BROAD CATEGORIES** of Spiritual Gifts God has given to each believer upon New Birth in Christ
(yes, **NOT** after a 2nd distinct “experience” after Salvation)

1. SPEAKING → apostles, prophets, prophecy, words of wisdom, words of knowledge, speaking in various kinds of languages, interpreting various kinds of languages. Leadership kinds of gifts use speaking as their tool for leading people, but not all these gifts are leadership gifts in this broad category. But, all the leadership gifted people, have these kinds of gifts from this category.

2. MINISTERING or SERVING (“hands on” → touching people)
helps, acts of mercy, serving, generosity, miracles, healings, etc.

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This week we'll focus on a few of the Gifts of the Spirit ...

Before we do that, let's answer the Question →

→ How do we, each, receive the Gift(s) of the Holy Spirit?

The Answer is almost always in the context of the passage. So, in this case, in the context of Romans 12:1-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; and 1 Peter 4:10-11 ... what do those passage seem to indicate?

Is there a Prerequisite that is common to those passages for the Christian to receive/possess a Gift or Gifts from the Holy Spirit?

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You must be BORN AGAIN ... → Those passages address Christians. It addresses those who are Born Again Disciples of Jesus Christ. It does not address Super Christians who've had an additional, special Experience (blast) from the Holy Spirit. There is NO HINT that Christians need to have an additional, distinct Experience with the Holy Spirit to receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. NO HINT at all in those passages.

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If you are genuinely Born Again, in Christ, a Disciple of Jesus Christ, then God, by His Spirit, has Gifted you for Service within the Body of Christ, according to His Will (1 Corinthians 12:1-11)

Let's look at a couple of the Speaking Gifts ... (remember, there are 2 categories → Speaking and Ministering/Serving)

PROPHECY / PROPHECYING → (according to 1 Cor. 14:1-5, this is the “best” or the most “superior” of all the gifts)

“that you would prophesy” → προφητεύητε

Greet Root → προφητεύω → Strong's Concordance Greek # 4395
Comes from → Bubbling UP, Boiling Forth ...

Web Link: <http://biblehub.com/greek/4395.htm>

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What Examples do we have?

Old Testament Prophets & New Testament Prophet (Agabas) ...

What do they all have in common?

- 1. WARNING People!!!**
- 2. Calling People to Repentance or to Action**
- 3. Calling People to Obedience to God**

**It is true in many cases the FUTURE is foretold, but that is not the AIM
That is a DIVINE DEVICE to get people's ATTENTION for the AIM.**

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TONGUES - SPEAKING/INTERPRETING →

Greet Root → γλῶσσα → “glossa” Strong’s Greek # 1100

→ language, speech, national language ...

Web Link: <http://biblehub.com/greek/1000.htm>

This is found in the Book of Acts and then addressed by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12 thru 14. The Greek definition always points to a living, native, human language. “tongues of angels” in 1 Cor. 13 doesn’t reference languages unknown to humans. In all cases, Angels always speak in human, known languages in the Bible. It is “seen” used only in Multi-Linguistic situations. The hearers hear God’s Word in their “native” language. In most cases, the speaker is NOT fluent in what is being spoken. The speaker may not hear the “tongue” they are speaking. (Pastor Andy’s example)

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Ministering Gifts ...

Helps/Mercy, Giving, Miracles, Healings ...

Focus → Miracles → Attesting Miracles (workers of miracles, servants who do miraculous things)

These are beyond normal, natural, physical ... God intervenes and does something “almost magical” ... they Point to Jesus Christ as Messiah, Savior, Master, and God. God uses the Miraculous to **CONFIRM** His Holy Word to Point People to Jesus Christ.

They **NEVER, EVER, EVER, POINT** to the “worker” of those Miracles. If they do, we should question their “ministry”

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29 Now, LORD, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your Word, **30** by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your Holy Servant Jesus.” **31** And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they **SPOKE** the Word of God with **BOLDNESS**. (Acts 4:29-31)

(when they were filled with the Holy Spirit they **did not** Speak in Tongues, but **SPOKE** God’s **WORD** with Boldness to the lost around them in **normal language** – God **Confirmed** His Word)

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² For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the LORD, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will? (Hebrews 2:2-4)

(God used signs, wonders, miracles, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to CONFIRM God’s Word that was spoken to the lost)

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The AIM of God using the Miraculous is to CONFIRM God’s Word ... first to Believers ... to Strengthen their Faith ... but also and mostly ... toward Unbelievers to point them to the Reality of God, the Truthfulness of God’s Holy Word, the Bible ... and to Jesus Christ, so that the lost might be Saved, become Born Again.

The Gifts of the Spirit are given by God to Build up the Body of Christ ... to Encourage, to Strengthen, to Embolden us ... so that we can Proclaim the Gospel to the Lost and Make Reproducing and Multiply Disciples of Christ. It is OUR MISSION, together. The Gifts are give to us to accomplish that Mission.

See y'all Next Time we Gather...

@ LIFE Group and/or Here Next Week



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