



WISDOM:

Applying God's Knowledge

February 23rd, 2025

EMPOWERED
Discovering Spiritual Gifts

DAY 1: WISDOM AS GOD'S GIFT

READING: JAMES 1:5-8, PROVERBS 2:1-6

God's wisdom is not merely human intelligence or experience, but a divine gift that transforms our understanding. James encourages us to ask God for wisdom, assuring us that He gives generously to all who ask in faith. This wisdom from God helps us navigate life's complexities and align our decisions with God's will.

Reflect on areas in your life where you need God's wisdom. How might your perspective change if you approached these situations with divinely inspired insight rather than relying solely on human understanding?

Today, practice intentionally pausing before making decisions, big or small. In those moments, ask God for His wisdom, trusting that He will guide you. Remember, true wisdom is found in relationship with Christ, who is "the power of God and the wisdom of God" (1 Corinthians 1:24).

DAY 2: EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT

READING: ACTS 1:8, GALATIANS 5:22-25

Just as Jesus was empowered by the Holy Spirit, we too are called to live Spirit-empowered lives. This empowerment isn't about personal gain or impressing others.

The fruits of the Spirit - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control - are evidence of the Spirit's work in our lives. These qualities reveal God's character to those around us.

Today, focus on one fruit of the Spirit you'd like to see grow in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you in this area. Look for opportunities to practice this quality, remembering that you're not striving in your own strength, but allowing God's power to work through you.

DAY 3: GIFTS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-11, ROMANS 12:3-8

Spiritual gifts are not given for personal glory, but for the common good of the church. Each gift, whether seemingly grand or humble, is essential for the church's health and growth.

Paul emphasizes unity in diversity - though our gifts differ, we serve the same Lord and are empowered by the same Spirit. This reminds us that comparison or competition has no place in the use of spiritual gifts.

If you are a follower of Jesus, reflect on the gifts God has given you. How are you using them to serve others and build up the church? If you're unsure of your gifts, pray for discernment and ask trusted friends or leaders for their observations. Remember, using your gifts isn't about perfection, but about faithfully stewarding what God has entrusted to you for His glory and the benefit of others.



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DAY 4: WISDOM FROM ABOVE

READING: JAMES 3:13-18, COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

James paints a vivid picture of the difference between worldly wisdom and wisdom from God. Godly wisdom is characterized by purity, peace, gentleness, and mercy. It's not about winning arguments or appearing smart, but about living in a way that reflects God's heart.

This wisdom is cultivated through a close relationship with God, saturating ourselves in Scripture, and yielding to the Holy Spirit's guidance. It often comes in moments of need, providing divine insight that goes beyond human understanding.

Today, pay attention to your interactions with others. Are your words and actions marked by the qualities James describes? Ask God to fill you with His wisdom, especially in challenging situations. Practice responding to difficulties with gentleness and understanding, trusting that God's wisdom will guide you.

DAY 5: GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS

READING: EPHESIANS 4:11-16, 2 PETER 1:3-8

The ultimate goal of spiritual gifts and wisdom is to grow in Christlikeness and to build up the church. As we use our gifts and seek God's wisdom, we mature in faith, becoming more like Jesus and helping others do the same.

This growth is a lifelong journey, requiring patience, perseverance, and community. We need each other to reach maturity in Christ, with each person playing their unique role.

Reflect on your spiritual journey. How have you grown in the past year? Where do you still need to grow? It might be that today is the day that you need to place your faith and trust in Jesus. Thank God for the progress you've made and ask Him to continue His transforming work in your life.

Consider how you can contribute to others' growth. Is there someone you can encourage, mentor, or serve using your gifts? Remember, as you pour into others, you too will grow, for it is in giving that we receive.