
Encounter(ing) God

Holy Spirit Part 12

Steve Berger September 29, 2019

Review

To encounter is not merely to agree with or to understand. It means to have an authentic, personal experience with God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

- a) **Nature of the Father**—The image of God you worship defines you.
- b) **Revelation of the Son**—The I Am statements reveal Jesus to us.
- c) **Advantage of the Holy Spirit**—The Person, power, purposes, and gifts of the Spirit are our advantage.

Today—Shepherding Gifts—Leadership, Pastor/Teacher, Apostolic, Administrations

**LEADERSHIP
PASTOR/TEACHER
APOSTOLIC
ADMINISTRATIONS**

Leadership

The gift of leadership is influencing the people of God to do the will of God for the glory of God.

- **Romans 12:8**
... he who leads, with diligence . . .
- **1 Timothy 4:12–16**
Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

**We are to lead with diligence;
the blessing that follows
is that we save others
and we save ourselves!**

Danger of not leading diligently:

- **2 Samuel 11:1**

It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

- **David—**

Stayed → Saw → Inquired → Took → Conceived → Deceived → Destroyed

- If you are too big for the small jobs, then you are too small for the big jobs.

Warning—There is no room for a lazy leader; it's too dangerous for all involved!

You might have the gift of leadership if . . .

1. You turn around and people are following you.
2. You have influence in people's lives.
3. You use that influence to further Christ's Kingdom and *not your own agenda*.

Pastor/Teacher

The gift of pastoring/teaching is shepherding God's people into God's Word, will, and ways.

- **Ephesians 4:11**

And God Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. . .

- **1 Peter 5:2–3**

Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

- Shepherd the flock: Feed and nourish your flock.
- Serving as overseers: Care enough about people to speak the truth to them in love.
- Not by compulsion but willingly: Pastor willingly, with honor and respect for your flock.
- Not for dishonest gain but eagerly: Gladly deploy this gift to please the Father and not for dishonest gain.
- Nor as being lords: Don't be heavy-handed in your authority over your flock.
- But being examples to the flock: Let people look at your life and see what it is to be a sold-out follower of Jesus.

You might have the gift of pastoring/teaching if . . .

1. You love people and love feeding them God's Word, will, and ways.
2. Doing it is a joy and not a job; the blessings outweigh the burdens.
3. You would pay others to let you teach them.

A quick word on being pastored/taught—

- **Hebrews 13:7, 17**

Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct . . . Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

- Recall your pastor/teacher and follow their faith, consider their outcome, obey them, and be kind. They're watching out for you and they're going to give an account. Let them pastor and teach you with joy and not with grief, which is unprofitable for you.

Apostolic

The apostolic gift means being supernaturally endowed to disciple, empower, and send others.

- **1 Corinthians 12:28**

And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles . . .

- **Matthew 10:1–2, 5**

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these . . . These twelve Jesus sent out . . .

**Disciples are called to Jesus,
but apostles are sent from Jesus
with the authority to disciple,
to empower,
and to send others.**

You might have an apostolic gift if . . .

1. You have been disciplined, empowered, and sent.
2. You yourself have disciplined, empowered, and sent others.

Application—There are levels to this gift. Some have sent handfuls. Others have sent thousands. And others still have planted thousands of churches. Don't be afraid of this gift. It is very real and very important, no matter the level of the giftedness.

Administrations

The gift of administrations means working and managing a vision with efficiency and excellence.

- **1 Corinthians 12:28**

And God has appointed these in the church . . . administrations.

- There are four kinds of people (Dr. Mark Rutland):

- Finders (Visionaries)
- **Binders (Administrators, who take a vision and make it a reality)**
- Minders (Managers)
- Grinders (Workers)

- This gift is massively important in the life of the church. This gift doesn't seem spiritual, but it facilitates the spiritual with effectiveness, efficiency, and excellence.

Remember—We started this series with the “non-spiritual” gifts of giving, helping, hospitality, and serving. Administrations can be similarly considered, but the body of Christ isn't going to flow spiritually without the gift of administrations.

Act 6:1–5

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And the saying pleased the whole multitude.

- The gift of administrations—something so natural and not flashy—is what fed the widows' hunger.

You might have the gift of administrations if . . .

1. You see solutions to problems, and you can articulate those solutions.
2. You can effectively and efficiently manage a vision.
3. You don't mind being behind the scenes.

Conclusion

**Every follower of Jesus has been given spiritual gifts.
Every gift is radically important.
We are to discover, develop, and deploy our gifts.
When we do, we fulfill our own destiny
and help fulfill the larger destiny of the Kingdom.**

Warning—The degree to which we don't develop and deploy our spiritual gifts is the degree to which the Body of Christ suffers loss.

Question—What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you? How are you using your spiritual gifts?

Series Review

Father

- **Exodus 34:6-8**
And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation." So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.
- Understanding God's nature and character is critical to having an encounter Him.

Son

The eight *I Am* statements of Jesus are found in the Gospel of John.

1. I AM
2. I am the Bread of Life
3. I am the Light of the World
4. I am the Door/Gate
5. I am the Good Shepherd
6. I am the Resurrection and the Life
7. I am the Way, the Truth, the Life
8. I am the Vine

Spirit

- **John 16:7**

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you . . .

- **Types of Spiritual Gifts**

1. Serving Gifts—Artistry, Giving, Helping, Hospitality, Ministry
2. Salvation Gifts—Evangelism, Faith, Miracles
3. Spiritual Insight Gifts—Discerning Spirits, Word of Wisdom/Knowledge
4. Strengthening Gifts—Mercy, Healing, Exhortation, Prophecy
5. Shepherding Gifts—Leadership, Pastor/Teacher, Apostolic, Administrations

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to lead diligently? What are the dangers of not being diligent in leadership?
2. How can a flock participate in being well taught and well pastored? Why is this so essential?
3. Discuss: “Disciples are *called to* Jesus, but apostles are *sent from* Jesus with the authority to disciple, empower, and send others.”
4. Why is it easy to undervalue spiritual gifts like administrations? In what ways is this gift so essential to church life and Kingdom work?
5. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you about the spiritual gifts you have been given? How are you using these gifts for the Kingdom of God?
6. In what ways have you encountered God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit?

NOTES