



## PERSONAL GUIDE - WEEK OF FEB. 21ST, 2016

### Introduction

Spiritual Gifts are often misunderstood or misused. This week Pastor Tom gives us some common misunderstandings regarding Spiritual Gifts. God tells us what we should value, so that when we do engage the culture with the Gospel, we do it in the way that God desires.

### Day 1

Read Matthew 7:15-23 and 1 John 4:1-6

Pastor Tom mentioned that Spiritual Gifts can be misunderstood. Some may confuse counterfeit gifts with Spiritual Gifts. The two sets of Scripture from Matthew and 1 John, both give advice on how to discern whether something is a Spiritual Gift or is a counterfeit gift. What are some of the signs that something is a spiritual gift? How can we tell if it is counterfeit? Read Matthew 24:24. Why does Satan use counterfeit gifts? John 13:35 tells us how we can recognize that something is from God, what should we look for to discover who Jesus' true disciples are?

### Day 2

Read Galatians 5:13-26

Another common misunderstanding about Spiritual Gifts is that people often place more value on them than on the Fruit of the Spirit. What are the characteristics of the Fruit of the Spirit? Why is the fruit important? How does it work to build up a community of faith?



### Day 3

Read 1 Corinthians 14:1-12

Paul makes a distinction between the Spiritual Gift of prophecy and the gift of speaking in tongues. Why is prophecy more important than tongues? Examine 1 Corinthians 14:3; how does Paul explain the gift of prophecy? What is its purpose? What does the church require for this Spiritual Gift to truly benefit the church?

### Day 4

Read 2 Timothy 1:6-10

What do these verses tell us to do with the Spiritual Gifts that we have received from God? How can you put these verses into practice in your own life? Do these verses empower you to witness to the world about Jesus?

### Day 5

Read James 1:2-8

James is speaking to individual believers, but his instructions can easily be given to the church. What would James say to the church if he was talking to them about perseverance? America continues to shed much of its general religious character, how is James' advice on perseverance relevant to the church today? Re-read verses 4 and 5. What do these verses tell us about the way God distributes Spiritual Gifts to His Church?

## THRIVE

You may think you understand the Spiritual Gift of tongues, but in his article in Christianity Today entitled, *Why We Should All Care About More Tongues*, Ed Stetzer urges us to reconsider what we know about this gift of the spirit. To read this article go to: [http://bit.ly/tongues\\_matter](http://bit.ly/tongues_matter)

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