

## Words of Knowledge

**Definition**—the supernatural revelation of facts about a person or situation, not learned through the efforts of the natural mind, but given by the Holy Spirit to our spirit and revealing something which God wishes to be made known concerning a particular person or situation. It may concern the past, the present, or the future.

### Biblical examples:

- 1) Warning of an enemy's plan for destruction (2 Kgs 6:9-12)
- 2) Encouragement to a despairing servant of the Lord (1 Kgs 19:14-18)
- 3) A disclosure of hypocrisy (2 Kgs 5:20-27)
- 4) A revelation to convince a wayward woman that her secret sins were known by God (Jn 4:18-19, 29)
- 5) A revelation of the whereabouts of a man in hiding (1 Sam 10:22)
- 6) An indication of a man's need (Ac 9:11)
- 7) An insight into the source of corruption in the church (Ac 5:3)
- 8) An indication of a suitable meeting place (Mk 14:13-15)
- 9) An insight into other men's thoughts (Jn 2:24; 1 Sam 9:19)
- 10) A revelation of a 4 drachma coin (Mt 17:27)
- 11) A revelation of a visitor to one's home (Ac 10:17-23)
- 12) A revelation of the kind of demon at work (Mk 9:17-25)
- 13) Elisha waiting for a word not yet given him (2 Kgs 4:27)

### How is this gift received?

- 1) It may be given sovereignly by God (1 Cor 12:11)
- 2) It may be requested from God (Mt 7:11, Lk 11:9)

- 3) Through impartation by another who has this gift (Rom 1:11, 2 Tim 1:6)
- 4) In a moment of need and not as a permanent endowment
- 5) The gift is to be encouraged, expected, and exercised as something which is clearly scriptural and emanates from God.

### How is the gift exercised?

We seek to be in a right, open and prayerful relationship with the Lord. Ministering to others in this attitude, we pray, "What is it, Lord?" We keep asking. Then we wait and listen. We may suddenly sense the real truth about a problem, a simple fact or the whereabouts of something lost, or we may sense a power to minister which prompts us to ask who may be in particular need.

- 1) We may see a picture (vision or dream) or work in the mind's eye or superimposed over a person's face or the affected part of his/her body.
- 2) We may "hear" a word or phrase in the mind's ear.
- 3) We may feel that another person is afflicted in some way by feeling an unaccustomed pain or strange physical sensations in our own body.
- 4) We may sense power coming upon us, altering us that God wants to minister to someone present.
- 5) We may sense heat, heaviness or tingling in the hands, alerting us to lay them on someone for healing.
- 6) Words of knowledge are faith builders. When God reveals something in this way, it is because God wants something done with such knowledge. It indicates the direction in which God is working.
- 7) People frequently fail to respond when "words" are shared out of embarrassment or fear, lack of faith, the nature of the "word", or concern toward others present who have been unaware of the condition/affliction, etc.

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