

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE COURSE SIXTY

THE 9 GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

How to Use This Guide

This self-study guide is a companion document to the video course “The 9 Gifts of the Spirit: Discerning of Spirits”

This guide will help you understand the Gift of Discerning of Spirits.

Each Glory to Glory Study guide is organized around five areas of learning:

1. **Synopsis of Key Learning** - The synopsis will provide summaries of key points from the video that are important for you to understand and serve as foundational knowledge for the next course in the learning series.
2. **Important Vocabulary and Concepts** - This study guide will provide explanation of important words or ideas that are critical to understanding biblical truth.
3. **Deeper Learning** - The more you know and understand about who God is and how He works, the deeper in love you fall. God wants to have a deep and abiding relationship with you. He desires for you to know Him. This section of guide will give you additional insights into the teaching from the video for you to study on your own. If you have questions, there will be mentoring moments in the online school for you to get your questions answered.
4. **Life Application** - God calls for us to not just be a hearer of His word, but a doer also. (James 1:22). This means that God expects for us to apply what we learn about Him in our everyday lives. This section of the study is to help you think about the ways to apply what you learn from the course to your everyday life.
5. **Memory Scriptures** - Scriptures that support key concepts in the course will be highlighted. We encourage you to memorize these scriptures by meditating on them until they are hidden in your heart. When you hide God's word in your heart, it makes it hard for the enemy to deceive you. In this way, you are less likely to sin against God. (Psalm 119:11)

Introduction to Course Sixty

In this Course you will learn about the Discerning of Spirits which is one of the nine gifts of the Spirit as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12:7-10.

The nine gifts work together to build up the body of Christ and equip the believer to discern what is of the Lord, what is of the flesh and what is of the enemy.

These are intended to keep purity and truth within the church.

The Gift of Discerning of Spirits	
Synopsis	<p>The Gift of Discerning of Spirits gives the believer the ability to discern or distinguish between what is of the Lord, what is of a person's flesh and what is of the enemy.</p> <p>This gift helps to keep the church and what is preached pure and holy unto the Lord and helps to keep demonic teachings out of the church and protect those within the household of faith.</p> <p>This gift is not intuition, or gut feelings, or suspicions or casting judgement against others based on our past experiences. No, it is a gift given by the Holy Spirit that is used without partiality and reveals the spirit behind a message.</p>
Key Vocabulary/ Concepts	<p>Hebrew Strong's Concordance - 1253</p> <p>Diakrisis: Discernment, distinguishing, judgment</p> <p>These Hebrew terms reflect the Old Testament emphasis on discernment as a vital aspect of wisdom and leadership, paralleling the New Testament understanding of διάκρισις as a spiritual gift.</p> <p>Usage: The word διάκρισις is used in the New Testament to describe the spiritual gift of discernment, particularly in distinguishing between true and false spirits or teachings. It appears in contexts where spiritual insight and judgment are necessary for the edification and protection of the Christian community.</p> <p>Context: The Greek term διάκρισις is a noun that appears in the New Testament, specifically in the context of spiritual gifts. It is most notably found in 1 Corinthians 12:10, where it is listed among the gifts of the Spirit: "to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in various tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues" (BSB). Here, διάκρισις is translated as "distinguishing between spirits," highlighting its role in discerning the authenticity and origin of spiritual manifestations.</p>

	<p>In the early Christian community, the gift of διάκρισις was crucial for maintaining doctrinal purity and spiritual integrity. It enabled believers to identify false prophets and teachings that could lead the church astray. This discernment was not merely a natural ability but was considered a supernatural endowment from the Holy Spirit, empowering individuals to perceive spiritual realities beyond human wisdom.</p> <p>The concept of διάκρισις extends beyond mere intellectual judgment; it involves a deep spiritual insight that aligns with God's truth. It is closely related to wisdom and knowledge, as it requires an understanding of God's will and the ability to apply it in various situations. The exercise of this gift was essential for the early church as it navigated challenges from both within and outside its community.</p>
<p>Deeper Learning</p>	<p>All of us carry with us a certain kind of spirit which is often a reflection of our mindset, who we are and what we hold dear.</p> <p>Others can pick up on it. If you are a positive person or you have the personality to uplift others this is what people feel when they are around you even if you are not saying alot. When you leave them you are still leaving this behind.</p> <p>There are 3 scriptures in the bible, that I can think of, where objects were viewed as having power or holding the spirit or the anointing that is on a person.</p> <p>In 2 Kings 4:8-37 the Shunammite woman put her dead son on Elisha's bed thinking that by laying him on the spot where Elisha slept this would resurrect the boy. When it didn't work she went looking for Elisha who then sent his servant Gehazi ahead of him to put his staff/rod on the boy to see if that would resurrect him. This also didn't work so Elisha had to go and pray over the boy.</p> <p>We see the same scenario with Elijah and the widow at Zarephath, she also took her son and put him on Elijah's bed to see if that would resurrect him.</p>

	<p>This clearly shows a pattern that they believed that a person's anointing was left behind in the spot where they spent some time.</p> <p>In Acts 19:11-15</p> <p><i>11 And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. 13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." 14 Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. 15 But the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?"</i></p> <p>So again an object that is touching someone's skin has the ability to transfer the anointing that this person carries. Notice that the seven sons of Sceva couldn't do this because they themselves did not have a relationship with Jesus and was using Paul's name as a mediator between themselves and Christ. It shows that the relationship with the Almighty God was not there and this is why they could not do this.</p> <p>Understanding this concept of objects holding the anointing of who you are after you touch it, what do you believe you leave behind after you've left someone's presence or their home?</p>
Life Application	Ask the Lord to reveal to you what you leave behind when you enter someone's space. If it is not good, ask the Lord what you can do to fix that.
Memory Scriptures	<i>(Mark 9:25) "When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.""</i>
Prayer	
Holy Spirit,	



Thank you for giving us the 9 Gifts of the Spirit. Thank you for discerning of spirits. Teach me how to use this gift for Your glory, In the name of Jesus, Amen.