

Reading Report for Spiritual Gifts: Expectation Without Agenda

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The article makes it very clear that Spirit Gifts are given to an individual in order to build up the church and advance the Kingdom of God. I really like this concept “expectation without agenda”. It is the will of the Father and the promise of Jesus that we will have and we will need the Holy Spirit in order for us to overcome the evil in this broken world. Thus, if we failed to cultivate, to hope, or to expect the gifts and work of the Holy Spirit, we would not be effective in our ministries.

I agree with C&MA view on the gift of tongues, that is still a valid gift for today, however, it is not the “initial, physical evidence” of being filled with the Spirit. As A. W. Tozer said, Jesus in His Spirit-anointed humanity, he finished his mission on earth. It was the LORD’s will to give the gift of tongue at the day of Pentecost in Acts chapter 2, as a sign of fulfillment of Jesus’s promise and the surrounding people within the area heard the gospel being shared in their native tongue. It is correct to say that that was the initial, physical evidence that the disciples received the Holy Spirit then. However, we cannot apply the same logic or argument since we are not in that context.

How then can one tell if the Holy Spirit is indwelling in a person? As the article stated on page 5, the fruits of the Holy Spirit as described in Galatians 5:22-23 The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. When someone close to us, family, friends, or colleagues can attest to our transformation and when we are no longer easily triggered or influenced by our own feelings, other people, or situations, we are living proof that the Power Holy Spirit is working in us. The second proof is a fruitful ministry. As the article addresses on page 3, when our consciousness and motive is based on love and the desire to build up the church (people around us) then the Lord will impart on us with His Kingdom work to display the Power and authority of

the Holy Spirit through us. It reads “The Holy Spirit is the owner and dispenser of the spiritual gifts, He decides what aspects of Jesus’s ministry he will do through each of us.”

I always wanted a gift of physical healing, when I go, two-by-two to share the gospel, I want to be able to heal instantly as Jesus did, because that is so real and it gets to that person right through his/her heart. Sadly, there were only two times when the Lord used me to heal someone. My spiritual gifts are faith, exhortation, knowledge, and words of wisdom. There are too many and I am grateful. So, I have learned to surrender my request of physical healing to God.

I am excited for what’s ahead, after I resigned from IRC where I worked for 11.5 years, this coming June will mark one year. I said Yes to Him, and to do His work, even though I am not 100% sure what ministry settings He will deploy me upon my graduation, I am very grateful to be in this season of learning and enjoying the journey. I really hope the Lord grants me to serve/have a fruitful ministry and that the Holy Spirit would continue to help me not to be fooled by my sins or the enemy.

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Thoroughly and Entirely     | _____ % |
| Quickly but Completely      | _____ % |
| Thoroughly but NOT Entirely | _____ % |
| Quickly and NOT Completely  | _____ % |
| Not at all                  |         |

Signed: Monom Teekham

#### Bibliography

Christian and Missionary Alliance, C&MA “Spiritual Gifts: Expectation without Agenda”. October, 19<sup>th</sup> 2006.