**Series:** Propelled: The Serving Mindset **Message:** Discovery Of Sign Gifts, Pt. 2

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

**Teacher:** Randy Pope **Date:** 7/8 May 2016

### **Definition of Sign Gifts**

Any gift whereby its means of usage is derived to some degree from God granting more uncommon abilities.

#### Last Week:

1. The Baptism Of The Spirit

### This Week

2. Speaking In Tongues

# J. I. Packer, Keep In Step With The Spirit, pg. 208

Most, with Calvin, think the Pentecostal tongues were languages and the Corinthian tongues were not, but there is no unanimity. Each case is arguable, and Hoekema is right when he says, 'It seems difficult, if not impossible, to make a final judgment on this matter.'

# J. I. Packer, <u>Keep In Step With The Spirit</u>, pg. 207

Can charismatic glossolalia, which is frequently a learned skill and technique, which lacks language structure, and which its own practitioners regard as mainly for private use, be convincingly equated with the tongues of 1 Corinthians 12-14, which were for public use, which were a 'sign' to unbelievers, and which Paul 'thought about as a language,' conveying meaning and therefore capable of being interpreted? Can the identity of these two glossolalic phenomena be convincingly affirmed? Surely not.

## J. I. Packer, Keep In Step With The Spirit, pg. 225

In this way glossolalia could be a good gift of God for some people at least, on the basis that anything that helps you to concentrate on God, practice His presence, and open yourself to His influence is a good gift. (For others, however, with different problems, whom God already enables to pray from their heart with understanding, glossolalia would be the unspiritual and trivial irrelevance that some now think it to be wherever it appears. It would be a case of one man's meat being another man's poison.)

- 3. Getting Messages From God
- 4. Healing And Healers

#### **Letter From Perimeter Elder:**

I have been reflecting on your sermon and had a couple of thoughts I wanted to share with you.

I believe that as members of Christ's body we are called to be players not spectators; we are called to serve and to minister to others – it is not an optional thing. The pastor is called to be an equipper, but every believer is called to be a minister. I feel that too many Christians today join churches solely with the purpose of having their own personal needs met; consequently, the work of Christ can be hindered by an attitude of consumerism among the members.

Obviously, desiring that our personal needs be met is an important consideration in selecting a church, but I think that it is less of a cause and more of an effect. I believe that having our needs met, with perhaps the exception of when we are in a time of crisis, comes more from ministering to others than from seeking to be ministered to. As every part of the human body is dependent on the proper function of every other part in order to carry out its own unique function, so every believer has both personal needs and the unique gifts for meeting the personal needs of others. I would even go so far as to say that for every true need that exists in a church, God has placed a member who He has equipped with the spiritual gifts necessary to meet that need...or to put it another way...if I, as a church member, am not using my spiritual gift(s), I can be certain that another member of the body is living with unmet needs. This I see as the beauty and wonder of the living organism that we call the church body, which God in His wisdom has ordained.