

Gifts of the Spirit

Explanation

The main purpose of priesthood in the Church of Jesus Christ is to lead the faithful in such a way that they can feel and receive the gifts of the Spirit, the greatest of which is the gift of eternal life. The gifts of the spirit are rich and manifold. Chart 12-10 combines into a single profile the array of spiritual gifts that are mentioned in four scriptural lists: in 1 Corinthians 12, Moroni 10, Doctrine and Covenants 46, and the seventh Article of Faith. No two of these lists are the same, just as no two individuals are the same. To one is given one gift; to others are given other gifts.

Through priesthood ordinances, people prepare themselves to receive the gifts of the Spirit by repentance, baptism, and then righteously keeping one's covenants with God. Chart 12-11 lists the many instances in the New Testament that mention the ordinance of baptism. This substantial collection shows the importance of baptism in early Christianity. As administered by John the Baptist and the apostles of Jesus, baptism was performed by immersion as a conscious token of one's faith and repentance. Baptism opens the way for a person to receive the confirmation of the gift of the Holy Ghost and the blessings of his companionship.

References

- H. George Bickerstaff, "Gifts of the Spirit," *EM*, 2:544–46.
James E. Talmage, *The Articles of Faith* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1983), 197–213.

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GIFT	1 Corinthians 12	Moroni 10	D&C 46	Article of Faith 7
To know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God			v. 13	
To have a testimony of the atonement			13	
To believe on the words of those who know			14	
To know the differences of administration			15	
To know the diversities of operations			16	
To have wisdom	v. 8		17	
To have knowledge	8		18	
To teach the word of wisdom		v. 9		
To teach the word of knowledge		10		
To have faith	9	11		
To have faith to be healed			19	
To heal	9	11	20	✓
To work miracles	10	12	21	
To prophesy	10	13	22	✓
To discern spirits	10	14	23	
To behold angels		14		
To speak in tongues	10	15	24	✓
To interpret tongues	10	16	25	✓
To interpret languages		16		
To receive revelation				✓
To behold visions				✓