**Q113. What is a spiritual gift?**

A spiritual gift is a God-given capacity through which the Holy Spirit supernaturally ministers for the good of the Church unto God’s glory.

**Q114. Are all the biblical spiritual gifts given still?**

No. God used certain gifts for a particular purpose and time in human history. God still does miracles, but the gifts that have ceased to be given by God to individuals are the miraculous and revelatory gifts: Apostle of Christ, prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpreting tongues, and miracle worker.

1. Read our catechism definition/summary of Spiritual Gift: *A God-given capacity through which the Holy Spirit supernaturally ministers for the good of the Church unto God’s glory. The world tries to counterfeit gifts to confuse, mislead, and cause chaos; therefore, believers must understand what gifts remain, distinguish real gifts, and exercise their gifts in truth. God still does miracles, but the miraculous and revelatory gifts seen in the Old and New Testaments have ceased with the completion of Scripture and the end of the office of Apostles of Christ in the first century. Remaining gifts for the church today include glorious things like service, teaching, exhortation, generosity, leadership, acts of mercy, proclamation of God's truths, and faith.*

The definition starts by saying, “*A God-given capacity through which the Holy Spirit supernaturally ministers for the good of the Church unto God’s glory*.” In the first part of the teaching tonight, we broke down the various part of this statement in detail. What portions of this was good clarity for your group?

1. Take some time to look back at the list of many spiritual gifts (short explanation for each) the New Testament Scripture speaks to that remain today, given in your Handout (page #4) and then discuss, with specific examples, how each of us can/should be using each gift listed. Additionally, have group share which gift(s) they think they have been given *advanced ability* in and what makes them say this.
2. Next in our catechism definition/summary of Spiritual Gift, it says, “*The world tries to counterfeit gifts to confuse, mislead, and cause chaos; therefore, believers must understand what gifts remain, distinguish real gifts, and exercise their gifts in truth*.”

Why is it important that we understand what gifts remain and distinguish real gifts?

1. Next in our catechism definition/summary of Spiritual Gift, it says, “*God still does miracles, but the miraculous and revelatory gifts seen in the Old and New Testaments have ceased with the completion of Scripture and the end of the office of Apostles of Christ in the first century*.”

A helpful understanding of a true miracle is: the occurrence of *something supernatural (beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature)*. Which of these should be considered a miracle? (Only 2 of the 3 are.)

-If God made the sun stand still.

-If someone is healed instantaneously of cancer that is surely killing them, in total contradiction to what the medical community has said and irrespective of human effort.

-The birth of a child.

We saw tonight that the primary purpose of the ability given to a person to do miracles has always been to confirm the credentials of a divinely appointed messenger (to establish the credibility of one who speaks for God). Since God is not speaking divine revelation to/through anyone any longer, what should we do when we hear someone claim the ability to do miracles?

1. The fourth proof for cessationism given in the lesson was the nature of the New Testament miraculous gifts compared to the “charismatic gifts” claimed today. What did your group learn from this point about what Scripture commands for the miraculous and revelatory gifts?
2. If applicable, have your group share what changes they personally need to make regarding trusting people claiming miraculous and revelatory gifts or seeking to do these things themselves?