

(This is the seventh in a series on the charismata and the Holy Spirit)

A Word of Knowledge!

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On <http://www.cechome.com> there is a posting for January 13 entitled "*For Your Consideration and Encouragement*". If you choose to read the entire article you will learn that the word "**AGAIN**" was given to Archbishop Chuck Jones. It was such a simple "word" that one might easily have dismissed. Along with that "word" was given a scripture reference. From the reading of the scripture and discerning what the Holy Spirit was saying, the recipient of this "word" was encouraged and given renewed direction for the Charismatic Episcopal Church.

That was a "word of knowledge". It was not something Archbishop Jones learned in a classroom. It was a supernatural occurrence along with the other "coincidences" noted in the article.

On a number of occasions when praying with people I have been privileged to be given insight not acquired through personal knowledge of the individual, but a "word" that used properly brought blessings in the person's life. On one occasion I was asked by a lady I did not know to pray for her. She was having problems sleeping. As I was about to pray the Holy Spirit put into my thoughts the name "Mary". It was something that could have easily been dismissed but bravely I asked her "who is Mary". It turned out to be a next door neighbor whose husband had died, and this lady for whom I was about to pray had problems with Mary because her husband was now helping Mary with chores around her house. Her attitude toward Mary was the cause of sleepless nights.

Another lady whom I did not know came to the altar rail for prayer during a healing service. Her problem was neck and back pains. As I prepared to pray for her the Holy Spirit said "ask her about her husband". I looked quickly to see if she might have on a wedding band which she did, and I felt more assured in asking such a question. (I sometimes don't trust the thoughts that I get.) She began to tell me all the unkind things "John" did to which I counseled her on forgiving him. That was like putting salt into the wound until finally the Holy Spirit began to reveal to her how Jesus forgave and she must do likewise. She started praying for Jesus to forgive her for her judgment against her husband. I gave absolution, and continued by

saying "let me pray for your back and neck now." She looked at me and said, "it doesn't hurt any more". John had been a pain in the neck! Had I simply prayed without dealing with the root problem, she may have left the altar rail without pain, but I am certain it would have returned when she arrived home and saw her husband. The Holy Spirit wants to get to the root problems in our lives.

A "word of knowledge" is just that. A "WORD" and often no more. It takes **faith** on the part of the receiver to trust that word and speak it. I was guest speaker at a charismatic event in Greenwich CT. Several pastors sat with me on the platform. We sang worship and praise songs for fifteen or so minutes during which the Lord gave me two "words". One was a person with a pain in the "right" knee was being healed. The second was a woman with a lump in her breast had nothing to worry about because it was not malignant. I was directed by the Holy Spirit to announce these, but I was unsure about calling out the healings and attempted to begin my message without obeying the Holy Spirit. I could not get started with the message until I obeyed. I explained that the Holy Spirit had revealed to me that someone had come with a pain in their knee. A man identified himself and discovered he no longer had the pain in the "right" knee. One down; one to go! I then announced the second, and a woman raised her hand and said she was going the next day to the doctor. I told her the rest of the message and she breathed a sigh of relief.

I was then able to bring the message!

The Holy Spirit knows everything, and if we will be open to Him, He will give you a "word" that can be the key to unlock blessings in the life of the person for whom you are praying. Do not ignore the "thoughts" that may come into your mind as you are praying for someone.

Anne S. White who for years trained people in Healing of Memories told the story of a physician who suffered asthma and had come for ministry. She talked with him for more than an hour gathering data. As she began to pray for him she could not shake off the word "bicycle" which was not part of the gathered data. She stopped praying and asked the doctor what the word meant. When he was a child there was another sibling who was always sickly. At Christmas their parents did not have money for two bicycles so they bought one for the sickly boy and told him to share. The only time it was shared was when he wanted his older brother to do something he did not

want to do; chores assigned to him. One morning they discovered the sickly brother had died during the night. Now the older brother no longer had to be blackmailed into riding the bike; it was now his! Two months later asthma developed. Anne had him in prayer to ask Jesus to go to the younger brother and tell him he was forgiven, and the doctor asked forgiveness. He never again suffered an asthma attack.

I have so many accounts I could tell as to how the Holy Spirit can be involved in our ministry. Trust the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised to send the Helper. He is One whom we can trust. The Holy Spirit desires to be part of our ministry and the "gifts" St Paul lists in First Corinthians 12: 8-10, along with verse 29 and Romans 12: 6-8, are as relevant for ministry within the Body of Christ today as when he wrote these epistles. If we truly believe the Bible is the living Word of God, then it is alive today and Jesus promised that the works He did we would do and even greater works. Stir up the gift that has been given to you.