

## **EMPOWERED** (part 2)

Allan Hamblin – June 18, 2017

## What happens when the Spirit empowers you? Why does the Spirit want to empower you?

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

2Cor. 5:17 (NIV)

Wherever God is <u>creating something new</u>, the Holy Spirit is at work! (Gen. 1:2-3; John 3:5)

"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so **in Christ we, though many, form one body**, and each member belongs to all the others."

Rom. 12:4-5 (NIV)

1. When the Spirit empowers you, you will connect with other Christians to form **one body**.

Q: Are you functioning as part of the body of Christ? YES NO

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Rom. 12:6-8 (NIV)

2. When the Spirit empowers you, you will begin to show signs of "Charisma" (Gifts of the Spirit).

Q: What are you doing that ministers to others?

3. When the Spirit empowers you, you will begin to produce **Fruit of the Spirit**.

"But **the fruit of the Spirit is love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

Gal. 5:22 (NASB)

Q: What is the difference between "Gifts of the Spirit" and "Fruit of the Spirit"?

- Gifts are what you do, but Fruit is who you are!
- Fruit of the Spirit is the **Character of Jesus!**

"But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way. <sup>1</sup> If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

1Cor. 12:31-13:3 (NASB)

Q: Why is Fruit of the Spirit a "**more excellent way**" than Gifts of the Spirit?

- You can be very gifted, and still be very carnal. (Matt. 7:21-23)
- Gifts only last for a while, but **Character** lasts forever!

(1Cor. 13:8, 13)

• The <u>Seed</u> is in the fruit! (Gen. 1:11; Luke 8:4-15)

Q:	Are you producing fruit?	YES	NO
Q:	Are you building up others?	YES	NO
Q:	If the Spirit left you, would anybody notice?	YES	NO

## **CHALLENGE:**

"Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? <sup>12</sup> "Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? <sup>13</sup> "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Luke 11:11-13 (NASB)