

BRMC Small Group Study: Holy Spirit Session 5

Participant's Copy

Scripture Passage:

Focus: Ephesians 4:11-16

Supplementary: 1 Corinthians 12:6-7 and 12-31

Open to the Spirit:

Focus chapter: 14

Supplementary chapters: 12 and 13

Lesson Objectives:

- Every Christian is granted one or more gifts by the Holy Spirit.
- These gift(s) are for the common good.
- Every Christian should desire these gifts, to know our gifting and to use it to build up the Body of Christ.

Introductory

1. In Ephesians 4:11-16 and 1 Corinthians 12:6-7, who is the Giver of these gifts? What is the purpose for these gifts?

2. What are some examples of the gifts?

Reflection

3. Have you observed examples of people exercising Spirit-prompted gifts in church or your small group (e.g. hospitality, teaching, leadership, etc)? What do you think happens when people exercise their Spirit-prompted gift(s)?

4. Have you been serving or do you currently serve in church, your small group or in the Body of Christ?

5. Have you discovered your Spirit-prompted gifts? How can I discern my Spirit-prompted gifts?

Application

6. Do you desire the Spirit-prompted gifts? How might you exercise your gifts?

Prayer

7. Write out a prayer for yourself based on what you have heard and learned from this session, and for your application steps.

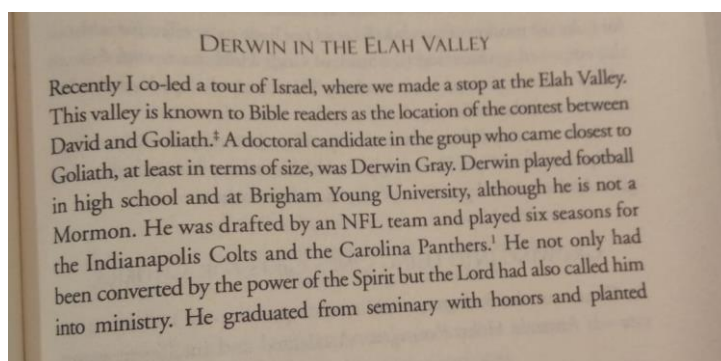
Call to Action

8. Would you and your small group prayerfully consider immediately answering the call to serve in Barker Road Methodist Church? Would you take this opportunity to explore serving in one or more the ministries in our church? Would you take that step to contact a Pastoral Team Staff or sign up from our registration page using the QR Code or URL below:



<https://brmcsg.churchcenter.com/people/forms/96422>

Derwin Gray's story:



Transformation Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. The church has been recognized as one of the fastest-growing churches in America.

Derwin is a big man with a big voice and a powerful capacity to preach and speak. And he loves to discuss theology. There in the Elah Valley I asked him to read 1 Samuel 17 as our group walked across a field and gathered near the famous stream associated with David's five smooth stones. Derwin prayed and then began to read. He knew the Lord had been on David's side, but he had the voice of Goliath. His booming voice echoed off the walls of the Elah Valley.

Derwin had had a terrible stutter at one time. And though it occasionally manifests itself in his speech now, the Lord has given him a transcending power to speak. That day I heard a miracle of God's own doing as Derwin read a passage from the Bible.

In his book on *Famous Stutterers*, Gerald McDermott sketches the lives of twelve famous people who had a stutter,² including Moses, who told God, "I am slow of speech and tongue." McDermott wrote that those who stutter will need to seek transcendence, so I quote again the line from my teacher, Jimmy Dunn: "The prominence of the Spirit in Luke's narrative from Pentecost onwards makes clear beyond doubt that for Luke the mission of the church could not hope to be effective without this empowering from God (the Spirit of God) which *transcends human ability and transforms human inability*."³ Yes, only the Spirit gives what transcends and transforms.

Like so many others who have experienced an empowerment from the Spirit to serve God, Derwin's life is a life for others. If God calls, God gifts. And what God gives is a gift for the sake of others.