

Certificate Course on Ministry Gifts

Introduction

The "Ministry Gifts" course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the various spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit for the edification of the Church. Over three months, participants will explore the biblical foundations, practical applications, and personal development of ministry gifts. This course aims to equip believers to identify, develop, and effectively use their spiritual gifts in ministry and everyday life.

Month 1: Biblical Foundations of Ministry Gifts

Week 1: Introduction to Spiritual Gifts

- **Lecture:** Understanding Spiritual Gifts
 - Definition and purpose of spiritual gifts
 - Overview of the gifts listed in the New Testament
 - Key Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, Romans 12:6-8
- **Reading:** "The Holy Spirit and His Gifts" by Kenneth E. Hagin (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Write a reflection on the diversity of spiritual gifts and their purposes in the Church.

Week 2: Gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12)

- **Lecture:** The Nine Gifts of the Spirit

- Detailed study of each gift: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues
- Key Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
- **Reading:** "The Holy Spirit and His Gifts" by Kenneth E. Hagin (Chapters 3-4)
- **Assignment:** Identify which gifts of the Spirit you believe you have experienced or witnessed, and describe their impact.

Week 3: Motivational Gifts (Romans 12)

- **Lecture:** Understanding Motivational Gifts
 - Explanation of prophecy, serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, leading, and mercy
 - Key Scriptures: Romans 12:3-8
- **Reading:** "Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow" by C. Peter Wagner (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Take a spiritual gifts inventory test and analyze your primary motivational gifts.

Week 4: Ministry Gifts (Ephesians 4)

- **Lecture:** The Fivefold Ministry Gifts
 - Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers

- Key Scriptures: Ephesians 4:11-13
- **Reading:** "The Fivefold Ministry Made Practical" by Ron Myer (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Research and present a report on how one of the fivefold ministry gifts is functioning in a modern church context.

Month 2: Historical and Theological Perspectives

Week 5: Old Testament Examples of Ministry Gifts

- **Lecture:** Spiritual Gifts in the Old Testament
 - Examples of prophetic, priestly, and kingly functions
 - Key Scriptures: Exodus 31:1-5, Numbers 11:25-29
- **Reading:** "The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament" by Leon J. Wood (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Analyze the role of spiritual gifts in the lives of Old Testament figures such as Moses, David, and Elijah.

Week 6: New Testament Development of Ministry Gifts

- **Lecture:** Transition from Old to New Covenant
 - How Jesus and the apostles modeled and taught about spiritual gifts
 - Key Scriptures: Luke 4:18-19, Acts 2:1-4

- **Reading:** "The Gifts and Ministries of the Holy Spirit" by Lester Sumrall (Chapters 1-2)
- **Assignment:** Compare the use and understanding of spiritual gifts in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Week 7: Church History and Spiritual Gifts

- **Lecture:** Gifts in Church History
 - The use and recognition of spiritual gifts throughout church history
 - Key Scriptures: Acts 6:1-8, 1 Timothy 4:14
- **Reading:** "Church History in Plain Language" by Bruce L. Shelley (Chapters 10-12)
- **Assignment:** Research a historical figure known for their spiritual gifts and present their contributions to the Church.

Week 8: Contemporary Theology of Spiritual Gifts

- **Lecture:** Modern Perspectives on Spiritual Gifts
 - Theological debates and current trends
 - Key Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 13:8-10, 1 Peter 4:10-11
- **Reading:** "Rediscovering the Charismata" by Jon Ruthven (Chapters 1-2)

- **Assignment:** Write an essay on the relevance and application of spiritual gifts in the contemporary Church.

Month 3: Practical Application and Personal Development

Week 9: Identifying Your Spiritual Gifts

- **Lecture:** Discovering Your Unique Gifts
 - Tools and assessments for identifying spiritual gifts
 - Key Scriptures: 2 Timothy 1:6, 1 Corinthians 12:27-31
- **Reading:** "Discover Your Spiritual Gifts" by C. Peter Wagner (Chapters 3-4)
- **Assignment:** Create a personal profile of your spiritual gifts and how you plan to use them in your ministry.

Week 10: Developing and Using Your Gifts

- **Lecture:** Cultivating and Exercising Spiritual Gifts
 - Practical steps for developing and using your gifts effectively
 - Key Scriptures: 1 Timothy 4:14-15, 2 Peter 1:5-8
- **Reading:** "Practicing the Power" by Sam Storms (Chapters 3-4)
- **Assignment:** Develop a ministry plan that includes specific actions for using your spiritual gifts in your church or community.

Week 11: Spiritual Gifts and Church Leadership

- **Lecture:** Integrating Gifts in Church Leadership
 - The role of spiritual gifts in church leadership and administration
 - Key Scriptures: Titus 1:5-9, 1 Corinthians 12:28
- **Reading:** "The Book of Church Order" by PCUSA (Selected Sections)
- **Assignment:** Write an essay on how spiritual gifts can enhance church leadership and governance.

Week 12: Final Project and Course Review

- **Lecture:** Synthesizing Knowledge and Practice
 - Review of key concepts and preparation for the final project
- **Assignment:** Present a comprehensive project that includes a detailed plan for utilizing your spiritual gifts in a specific ministry context, demonstrating biblical understanding and practical application.