



Preparation:

- Before Your Group Meets
 - Spend time prayerfully engaging the select verses that are used throughout this week's session.
 - Read through all the material so you'll be able to better facilitate the discussion.
 - Think through ways you can further help your group learn what is being taught instead of simply rehashing what's been taught in Freedom. Write down two or three ideas.
- When Your Group Meets
 - Summarize the "Intro."
 - Call on group members to read the passages corresponding to the appropriate question.
 - Walk your group through each question. Use the "Leader Guide" to facilitate the group discussion.
 - Discuss the "Moving Forward" section with your group and help them formulate specific plans for moving forward.
 - Share with your group the resources from the "Keep Digging" section.
 - End in a time of prayer

Intro:

We must remember that the reason the Holy Spirit gives each of us a spiritual gift so that the church is built up and encouraged to walk well with the Lord. This is important for us to remember, because there are a lot of questions surrounding the gifts of prophesy and teaching. Both of these gifts handle truth, but in different ways.

Definitions:

1. Spiritual Gifts: *any ability that is empowered by the Holy Spirit and used in any ministry of the church.*
2. Prophecy: (in the New Testament) *telling something that God has brought spontaneously to mind.*
3. Teaching: *the ability to explain scripture and apply it to people's lives.*

Discussion Questions:

Prophecy – How OT and NT are a little different.

Read: Deut. 18:18-22; 1 Corinthians 14:3-5, 29-33, 37-40; 1 Thess 5:20-21

1. What does Deuteronomy say about a prophet? What are some things that that are warnings? How are OT prophets different from NT people gifted with prophecy?
2. What function does someone with the gift prophecy have in church today?
3. What are the guidelines for this gift according to God's Word?
4. Have you ever experienced or known someone with this gift that practiced it biblically?
5. How does this gift handle truth? Where does it come from and how authoritative is it?

The Gift of Teaching

Read Matthew 5:19; 2 Timothy 2:2, 15; Col 1:28

6. Why do you think teaching is important? What does the Bible say?
7. Who were the best biblical teachers you've known, and what qualities about them made them great?
8. How does this gift handle truth? Where does its truth come from and how authoritative is it?

Review:

All of the gifts are intended to build up the church, with encouragement as well as causing repentance from sin. All of the gifts are best used when the believer is in a close (current) relationship with God. The gift of prophecy is important because it allows believers to hear from God through one another, whether it is through encouragement or repentance, and evaluate it together, holding to what is good. The gift of teaching is vital to the multiplication of our faith. Teachers examine God's Word and explain and apply it to the body. Their authority comes from the words of Jesus and the apostles that Jesus appointed. We must pursue these gifts and encourage their use!

Keep Digging:

Systematic Theology books by: Erickson, Grudem

you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the
branches. Whoever abides in me and I in
him, he it is that bears much fruit
from me you can do nothing

ABIDE

<http://theresurgence.com/series/spiritual-gifts>