

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Several of the talents that our class identified in the Space Station Mission are actually what are referred to as the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Before he died Jesus promised the apostles a Holy Spirit would appear to them to guide them.

The Coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1 and 2)

After Jesus rose from the dead, He told the apostles to wait in Jerusalem until they received power when the Holy Spirit came on them. Forty days after Jesus rose, he went back to be with God the Father. As He talked with His disciples, He started rising up into the air and finally went into the clouds. The disciples were very happy and so they waited in Jerusalem as Jesus had said, praying all the time.

Ten days later, when the apostles were all gather together in one room, the Holy Spirit came on them like Jesus had said. It was on the Jewish feast day of Pentecost. They heard a noise from the sky like a strong wind blowing. Then they saw something that looked like flames of fire that separated and stood over each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them the power to speak.

Now Jews from all over the world were in the city of Jerusalem at that time. When people heard the apostles, a large crowd came together. Every person heard the apostles praising God in their own language. Now they were surprised that each person could hear in the language he was born in. So they started asking, "What is happening?" But other people were making fun of the apostles and saying they were drunk.

Then Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles. He told the crowd that they were not drunk, but that what the prophet Joel had said would happen was happening. He told the Jews there that God had sent Jesus to them, but that they had nailed Him to a cross. But God had known that this would happen so He raised Jesus from the dead. This is what King David had been talking about in the Psalms when he wrote the song to God that says:

"You will not leave My soul in Hades [that is, the world of the dead];

You will not let Your Holy One's body rot."

Then Peter said that David was still dead, but that Jesus was alive. Now He had gone up into heaven to sit at the right side of God. The Father had given Jesus the Holy Spirit and He had poured that Spirit on His followers.

When the people heard this, they were very, very sorry. They asked, "What should we do?" Then Peter told them, "Repent [that is, change your mind about sinning], and each of you must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then God will forgive your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Peter preached to them some more. Then those who believed what he

said were baptized. That day 3,000 people became Christians. It was the beginning of Christ's church. The Christians listened to what the apostles taught, shared what they had, ate the Lord's Supper together, and prayed together. And every day more and more people became Christians.

These are the gifts the Holy Spirit gave to us:

1. **Understanding:** Understanding means comprehending how we need to live as followers of Christ. It means not being confused by the conflicting messages in our culture about the right way to live.
2. **Counsel or Right Judgment:** This gift means knowing the difference between right and wrong, choosing to do what is right, and it means that we avoid sin and live out the values taught by Jesus.
3. **Fortitude or Courage:** Fortitude means that we overcome our fear and are willing to stand up for what is right in the eyes of God, even if it means accepting rejection.
4. **Knowledge:** The gift of knowledge means that we have an understanding, not of facts, but an understanding of the meaning of God.
5. **Piety:** With this gift we display a deep sense of respect for God and for the Church. A pious person trusts and loves God, and shows this devotion by praying regularly.
6. **Fear of the Lord/Wonder and Awe:** This gift means that we are aware of the glory and majesty of God. We recognize God as the infinite, all-powerful Creator and as perfection.
7. **Wisdom:** This gift gives us the capacity to love spiritual things more than material things.

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1. Why were the apostles gathered in a room? Why were they not praying in public like they did before Jesus was crucified?

2. Explain what the Holy Spirit sounded and looked like when it arrived.

3. The Holy Spirit gave each one of us seven gifts.
 - a) Explain each gift in your own words.
 - b) Give a specific example of how each gift can be used.

Understanding

Counsel or Right Judgment

Fortitude or Courage

Knowledge

Piety

Fear of the Lord or Wonder and Awe

Wisdom



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The Gifts of the Holy Spirit



You have completed an activity during which you and your classmates identified the gifts/talents needed to establish a new society based on the teachings of Jesus. Take a moment to reflect on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and then choose **five** of the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit that *you* could offer this new society. Explain, using one or two examples, how you would demonstrate these gifts in the new society.

1. Gift/Talent: _____

How you would demonstrate the gift: _____

2. Gift/Talent: _____

How you would demonstrate the gift: _____



3. Gift/Talent: _____

How you would demonstrate the gift: _____

4. Gift/Talent: _____

How you would demonstrate the gift: _____

5. Gift/Talent: _____

How you would demonstrate the gift: _____

