

Madison Heights Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

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MADISON HEIGHTS MESSENGER

No. 5

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Some Gifts of the Holy Spirit

These gifts of the Holy Spirit are gifts which some denominations believe the Holy Spirit gives to people. Some Christians take these to be a definitive list of specific attributes, while other Christians take them to be examples of God's work through his people by the Holy Spirit.

With the gift of **wisdom** we see God at work in our lives and in the world. For the wise person, the wonders of nature, historical events, and the ups and downs of our lives take on deeper meaning. With wisdom comes the ability to analyze information to make the best choice.

With the gift of **understanding** we comprehend how we need to live. A person with understanding is not confused by the conflicting messages in our culture about the right way to live. The gift of understanding is the gift whereby self-evident principles are known.

With the Spirit of **counsel** you know the difference between right and wrong, and choose to do what is right. A person with right judgment avoids sin and lives out the values taught by the Bible.

With the gift of **power** you are able to overcome fear with courage. You are both willing and able to take necessary risks to stand up for what is right in the sight of God, even if it means rejection, verbal abuse. The gift of courage allows people the firmness of mind that is required in the face of evil.

With the gift of **knowledge**, we understand the meaning of God's Revelation, especially as expressed in the life and words of Jesus Christ. A person with knowledge is always learning more about the scriptures. The gift of knowledge is more than an accumulation of facts.

With the gift of **reverence** we have a deep sense of respect for God and the church. A person with reverence recognizes our total reliance on God and comes before God with humility, trust, and love.

For **fear of the Lord** it is necessary to understand that the word "fear" does not translate into an emotional response to a perceived threat. Fear is used to describe wonder and awe. With the gift of fear of the Lord we are aware of the glory and majesty of God. A person with wonder and awe knows that God is the perfection of all we desire: perfect knowledge, perfect goodness, perfect power, and perfect love. Fear of the Lord puts our mindset in its correct location with respect to God. We are the finite, dependent creatures, and He is the infinite, all-powerful Creator.

George