

# smith wigglesworth on spiritual gifts

**smith wigglesworth on spiritual gifts** remains a pivotal subject for those studying the manifestation of divine power in the early 20th century Pentecostal movement. Smith Wigglesworth, a renowned evangelist, is widely recognized for his profound teachings and demonstrations of spiritual gifts such as healing, prophecy, and speaking in tongues. His ministry highlighted the active presence of the Holy Spirit and the supernatural empowerment available to believers. This article explores Wigglesworth's insights into spiritual gifts, their biblical foundations, and practical implications for contemporary Christian faith and practice. Understanding smith wigglesworth on spiritual gifts provides valuable lessons on faith, divine authority, and the operation of supernatural gifts in the modern church. The following sections will discuss his life and ministry, the nature of spiritual gifts, specific gifts emphasized by Wigglesworth, and the enduring impact of his teachings.

- Smith Wigglesworth: Life and Ministry
- The Biblical Foundation of Spiritual Gifts
- Key Spiritual Gifts Emphasized by Smith Wigglesworth
- The Role of Faith in Activating Spiritual Gifts
- Legacy and Influence of Smith Wigglesworth on Spiritual Gifts

## Smith Wigglesworth: Life and Ministry

Smith Wigglesworth's ministry spanned the early 1900s, during which he became known as a powerful faith healer and evangelist. Born in 1859 in England, Wigglesworth's encounter with the Holy Spirit transformed his life and ministry. His teachings and miracles attracted thousands, illustrating the practical outworking of spiritual gifts. His commitment to scripture and reliance on the Holy Spirit exemplified the Pentecostal experience of spiritual empowerment. This background sets the stage for understanding his perspective on spiritual gifts, as he consistently emphasized divine enablement over human ability.

## The Biblical Foundation of Spiritual Gifts

Understanding smith wigglesworth on spiritual gifts requires a firm grasp of the biblical teachings that underpin these supernatural manifestations. The Apostle Paul's letters, especially 1 Corinthians 12-14 and Romans 12, provide a comprehensive framework for spiritual gifts. Wigglesworth often cited these scriptures to validate the active presence of gifts such as healing, prophecy, and tongues in the church. He believed that spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to equip believers for ministry and to edify the body of Christ.

## **Types of Spiritual Gifts**

The New Testament identifies various spiritual gifts, including but not limited to healing, miracles, prophecy, speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, teaching, and faith. Wigglesworth's teachings focused on the gifts that demonstrated God's power in tangible ways, particularly healing and miracles. According to his interpretation, all gifts serve the purpose of strengthening the church and advancing the gospel.

## **Purpose and Use of Spiritual Gifts**

Wigglesworth taught that spiritual gifts are not for personal glory but for the common good and the glory of God. He stressed that gifts should be exercised in love and humility, reflecting Christ's character. The proper use of gifts involves obedience to the Holy Spirit and faith in God's promises.

## **Key Spiritual Gifts Emphasized by Smith Wigglesworth**

Smith Wigglesworth on spiritual gifts prominently highlighted several key manifestations that defined his ministry and influenced Pentecostalism worldwide. His focus on healing, miracles, and prophecy demonstrated God's active intervention in human affairs.

### **Healing**

Healing was perhaps the most notable gift associated with Wigglesworth. He believed that divine healing was available to all believers through faith and the power of the Holy Spirit. His numerous recorded healings from ailments and disabilities became a hallmark of his ministry. Wigglesworth's approach combined fervent prayer, scriptural authority, and expectant faith.

### **Prophecy**

Prophecy was another significant gift Wigglesworth demonstrated. He often spoke words of knowledge and divine insight, encouraging believers to trust God's guidance. Wigglesworth's prophetic ministry was marked by accuracy and boldness, which reinforced the authenticity of his spiritual experiences.

### **Speaking in Tongues**

As a Pentecostal pioneer, Wigglesworth embraced speaking in tongues as evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit. He taught that this gift was essential for empowering believers to witness effectively and to build up their faith. Speaking in tongues also provided a direct means of communication with God beyond human language.

# Faith

Faith itself is considered a spiritual gift, and Wigglesworth exemplified extraordinary faith throughout his ministry. He often encouraged believers to act on God's word without hesitation, trusting in His power to perform miracles. His life serves as a testimony to the dynamic relationship between faith and spiritual gifts.

- Healing – restoration of physical health through divine power
- Prophecy – receiving and delivering messages from God
- Speaking in tongues – spiritual language for prayer and praise
- Faith – unwavering trust in God's ability to act

## The Role of Faith in Activating Spiritual Gifts

Smith Wigglesworth on spiritual gifts consistently underscored the indispensable role of faith in unlocking the supernatural. He believed that the Holy Spirit empowers believers, but activation depends on confident expectation and obedience. Without faith, spiritual gifts remain dormant or ineffective. Wigglesworth's life illustrated that faith is both the foundation and catalyst for miracles and divine manifestations.

## Faith as a Prerequisite

Wigglesworth taught that spiritual gifts require a receptive heart, boldness, and unwavering confidence in God's promises. Faith is the key that opens the door for the Holy Spirit to work powerfully through believers. He often urged prayer and scriptural meditation to strengthen faith.

## Faith in Practice

Practical examples from Wigglesworth's ministry reveal how faith is exercised in healing and prophecy. He would command sickness to leave or speak words of encouragement based on the Holy Spirit's promptings, demonstrating that faith activates spiritual gifts. Believers are encouraged to cultivate this faith to experience similar manifestations.

## Legacy and Influence of Smith Wigglesworth on Spiritual Gifts

The impact of Smith Wigglesworth on spiritual gifts extends beyond his lifetime, influencing Pentecostal and Charismatic movements globally. His teachings continue to

inspire believers to pursue the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit boldly. Many contemporary ministers reference his life as a model for operating in spiritual gifts with authority and faith.

## **Influence on Pentecostalism**

Wigglesworth's ministry helped shape early Pentecostal doctrine, particularly regarding healing and the baptism in the Holy Spirit. His emphasis on practical demonstration of gifts encouraged churches to embrace spiritual empowerment as normative for Christian living.

## **Continuing Relevance**

Today, Smith Wigglesworth on spiritual gifts remains a subject of study and emulation. His example challenges believers to seek a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit and to manifest gifts that glorify God. His legacy also promotes a balanced approach that combines scriptural fidelity with supernatural expectation.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Who was Smith Wigglesworth and what was his role in teaching about spiritual gifts?**

Smith Wigglesworth was a prominent early 20th-century Pentecostal evangelist known for his powerful faith healing and teachings on the Holy Spirit. He emphasized the importance of spiritual gifts, encouraging believers to seek and operate in them as evidence of the Spirit's work.

### **What spiritual gifts did Smith Wigglesworth emphasize the most?**

Smith Wigglesworth particularly emphasized the gifts of healing, prophecy, and speaking in tongues. He believed these gifts were vital for the early church and remain accessible to believers today for ministry and building up the church.

### **How did Smith Wigglesworth demonstrate the use of spiritual gifts in his ministry?**

Smith Wigglesworth demonstrated spiritual gifts primarily through miraculous healings and deliverance. His ministry was marked by numerous reports of people being healed from incurable diseases, which he attributed to faith and the power of the Holy Spirit working through him.

# What was Smith Wigglesworth's teaching on the relationship between faith and spiritual gifts?

Smith Wigglesworth taught that strong, unwavering faith was essential to activate and operate spiritual gifts. He believed that faith connects believers to the power of the Holy Spirit, enabling them to perform miracles, healings, and prophesy effectively.

## Are Smith Wigglesworth's teachings on spiritual gifts still relevant for Christians today?

Yes, many Christians today still find Smith Wigglesworth's teachings on spiritual gifts relevant. His emphasis on faith, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the operation of gifts like healing and prophecy continue to inspire Pentecostal and Charismatic believers worldwide.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *Smith Wigglesworth on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit*

This book compiles Smith Wigglesworth's teachings and sermons focusing on the various spiritual gifts described in the New Testament. It offers practical insights into how believers can recognize, develop, and operate in gifts such as healing, prophecy, and speaking in tongues. Readers gain inspiration from Wigglesworth's personal experiences and his emphasis on faith and the power of the Holy Spirit.

### 2. *The Power of the Spirit: Lessons from Smith Wigglesworth*

Exploring the dynamic life of Smith Wigglesworth, this book delves into his understanding and demonstration of spiritual gifts. It highlights how the Holy Spirit empowered him to perform miracles and encourages readers to pursue a similar baptism in the Spirit. The text serves as both a biography and a spiritual guide on walking in supernatural gifts.

### 3. *Faith and Gifts: Smith Wigglesworth's Guide to Spiritual Empowerment*

This guidebook presents Smith Wigglesworth's principles for cultivating faith and activating spiritual gifts in everyday Christian living. It blends biblical teaching with Wigglesworth's practical advice on healing, prophecy, and deliverance. The book challenges believers to step out boldly in the gifts given by the Holy Spirit.

### 4. *Healing Through the Spirit: Smith Wigglesworth's Teachings on Divine Gifts*

Focused specifically on the gift of healing, this book collects Smith Wigglesworth's most powerful messages and testimonies related to healing miracles. It explains the biblical foundation for healing gifts and offers encouragement to those seeking to operate in this area. The narrative also captures Wigglesworth's unwavering faith and dependence on God's power.

### 5. *Smith Wigglesworth and the Apostolic Gifts*

This volume examines the apostolic gifts—such as miracles, prophecy, and tongues—as demonstrated by Smith Wigglesworth. It provides historical context and scriptural backing for these gifts, illustrating how Wigglesworth's ministry revived apostolic power in the modern church. Readers are inspired to embrace these spiritual gifts for ministry and

outreach.

#### *6. The Anointing of Smith Wigglesworth: Unlocking Spiritual Gifts*

Detailing the unique anointing that Smith Wigglesworth carried, this book explores how his close relationship with the Holy Spirit enabled him to manifest spiritual gifts. It offers practical steps for believers seeking to receive a similar anointing. Through stories and teachings, readers learn about the role of prayer, faith, and obedience in unlocking spiritual gifts.

#### *7. Smith Wigglesworth's Teachings on Prophecy and Spiritual Gifts*

This collection focuses on Wigglesworth's insights into the prophetic gift and its function within the church. It discusses how prophecy complements other gifts and encourages believers to listen and respond to the Holy Spirit's voice. The book also includes examples of Wigglesworth's prophetic ministry and its impact.

#### *8. The Supernatural Ministry of Smith Wigglesworth: Gifts of the Spirit in Action*

A detailed account of Smith Wigglesworth's miraculous ministry, this book highlights how spiritual gifts operated powerfully through him. It covers healing, deliverance, prophecy, and speaking in tongues, emphasizing the role of faith and the Spirit's empowerment. The book serves as a model for believers aspiring to active supernatural ministry.

#### *9. Empowered by the Spirit: Learning from Smith Wigglesworth's Gifted Life*

This inspirational book draws lessons from the life of Smith Wigglesworth to teach about living a Spirit-empowered Christian life. It focuses on understanding and practicing spiritual gifts as a normal part of Christian experience. Readers are encouraged to develop intimacy with the Holy Spirit and step boldly into their God-given gifts.

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