

Keysis Outline
2/13/08
The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

John 14:15-17 “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, which the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor know it. But you know it, because it remains with you, and will be in you.”

Review:

- Sacrament—an efficacious sign of grace (God’s life); a visible reality that reveals an invisible mystery
- Initiation—Baptism and Confirmation, which completes Baptism (and Eucharist)
- We are sealed, one time deal, strengthened, we receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The Gifts and the Virtues:

1. Definition of Virtue: an habitual and firm disposition to do that which is good.
 - a. Moral (cardinal) virtues: acquired through human effort aided by God’s grace (working out our spiritual muscles)
 - i. Prudence: careful consideration
 - ii. Justice: wanting that which is right
 - iii. Fortitude: strength in the midst of adversity
 - iv. Temperance: resisting the temptation to overindulge
 - b. Theological virtues: Gifts infused by God into the souls of the faithful to make them capable of acting as his children and of meriting eternal life.
 - i. Faith
 - ii. Hope
 - iii. Love
2. The “gifts” of the HS—the HS bestows them, they are supernatural, they are not gifts one simply ask for in times of emergency; they are present as long as the person remains in the state of grace
3. Gifts complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them—the gift is that I am given the power to move my arms, the virtue is I choose to work out my arm muscles to make them stronger.

The order of the gifts

(Fear of the Lord—piety—knowledge—courage--right judgment—understanding—wisdom)

1. Fear of the Lord: helps us avoid sin and attachment to created things out of reverence and love for God.—We want to make God proud.
 - a. “Happy the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commands” Ps 112
 - b. We realize we are only creatures and God is the creator

- c. We realize our dependency on God and never want to be separated from Him
 - d. It's like wanting to obey someone out of love and fear of hurting them if we don't, not just out of fear of punishment.
 - e. Perfects the *virtue of hope*(*trusting in His will*), *temperance especially in chastity* (*live a chaste life because God is the creator of those goods*)
2. Piety: Reverence for God our loving Father and love of neighbor
 - a. Love the Lord your God....and your neighbor as yourself
 - b. Rhymes with Family
 - c. Perfects the *virtue of Justice*(*wanting the best for our fellow man*).
 3. Knowledge: an ability to understand yourself better in relation to God—the state of your soul
 - a. A better judgment or special illumination about the world around me and my place in it
 - b. Detached from material things and seeing how created things glorify God.
 - c. Repentance for the misuse of material things or when they are allowed to become obstacles to God
 - d. Perfection of *faith, temperance, prudence, & justice*.
 4. Courage: able to overcome difficulties and endure pain and suffering with the strength and power infused by God.
 - a. Story of the man who lost his wife and kids in a flood.
 - b. Resist evil and pursue everlasting life
 - c. Live the virtues heroically, suffer with patience and joy, overcome all lukewarmness in the service of God
 5. Right Judgment (Counsel): enables a person to judge good vs evil.
 - a. The voice of your conscience
 - b. You can give counsel to others
 - c. “Will this act lead to holiness? Will this act lead to Heaven?”
 - d. Perfects the virtue of *prudence*.
 6. Understanding: A deeper insight and penetration of divine truths held by faith.
 - a. We are moving beyond the surface (sacrament—example of the body)
 - b. Disclose the hidden meaning of Sacred Scripture; revealing the significance of signs and symbols showing the hand of God at work in a person's life (even in the most mysterious or troublesome events; and revealing spiritual realities that underlie sensible appearances (sacrament))
 - c. Perfect the virtue of *faith*
 7. Wisdom: the contemplation of divine things, enabling the person to grow in union with God.
 - a. St. Therese of Lisieux
 - b. Directs human acts according to the Divine
 - c. A person can see and evaluate all things from God's point of view—joy and sorrow, pleasure and pain, success or failure—and accept them with equanimity.

- d. Gives value to martyrdom
- e. Victoria—brought her family back to God
- f. Perfects the virtue of *charity*.

JPII “With gifts and qualities such as these, we are equal to any task and capable of overcoming any difficulties.”

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, & chastity.

What keeps us from seeing these gifts in our own lives?

1. May not be in a state of grace
2. Our prayer life is lacking
3. Don't have a knowledge about these things, thus we don't pay attention to them.

How do we change that?

1. Frequent the sacraments, especially Reconciliation.
2. Spend more time in prayer
3. Take the time to learn about my faith
4. ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR HELP!!!