



Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom

The wise person has the ability to penetrate the mind of God and see as God sees.

- ◆ Acknowledging the essential goodness of a person or a situation when others fail to see the goodness: "I know that John has a lot of faults, but he's also very willing to help out when we need him."

Understanding

The understanding person can detect the presence of God in daily activities.

- ◆ Detecting guidance toward a particular course of action when others seem confused or befuddled by a situation: "All five of us have to be in different places at the same time. Maybe this is a sign that we need to simplify our schedules a bit."

Right Judgment

The person with right judgment confidently knows the difference between right and wrong.

- ◆ Knowing right from wrong when others give into temptation: "It's not right for you to keep that \$20 you found in the school hallway. You should turn it into the office tomorrow." OR "I told my friends that I would spend time with them at Jill's house tonight, so I'm just going to have to turn down the tickets to the concert."

Courage

The courageous person is not afraid to do what is right.

- ◆ Fearlessly doing the right thing when others prefer to go along with the crowd: "Mom and Dad told us not to have friends over when they're not here. I'm going to tell them that they have to leave."

(over)

Knowledge

The person with knowledge possesses a profound awareness of the dynamics of loving relationships.

- ◆ Increasing loving actions by being aware of the most basic needs of people when others act selfishly: "It's important for us to share what we have with others, or all of our communities will be strained by the pressure of poverty." OR "I think all she needs is for you to listen to her a little."

Reverence

The reverent person loves and obeys God the way a young child loves and obeys a parent.

- ◆ Expressing love in simple ways when others are caught up in complexity: "Let's just spend some time together just enjoying each other's company." This simple time can be spent with God in prayer or with God's presence in our loved ones.

Wonder and Awe in God's Presence

The person who is filled with wonder and awe marvels at the greatness of God's creation and appreciates the deep mystery of God. Wonder and awe inspires religious worship.

- ◆ Marveling at the wonders of creation: "I just love watching the birds; they are such beautiful creatures. They inspire me to be more careful about how I use Earth's resources."