

Ungifted Hands

by A.W. Tozer

The sermon emphasizes the importance of the Holy Spirit's control and functioning in our lives, and the need for us to pray for His movement in our midst.

Scripture: Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, Ephesians 4:11-13, Philippians 2:13, 1 Peter 4:10-11

Topics: "Empowerment by the Holy Spirit", "Spiritual Gifts"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the necessity of the Holy Spirit's control in the lives of believers, illustrating this with the metaphor of his own 'ungifted hands' that lack the ability to perform skilled tasks. He argues that it is unwise to expect spiritual results from those who are not empowered by the Spirit, and he challenges the church to recognize the importance of utilizing the gifts that God has given to each member. Tozer calls for a movement of the Holy Spirit within the church so that every believer can actively serve and contribute their unique gifts for God's glory.

Transcript

For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. --Philippians 2:13

The important thing is that the Holy Spirit desires to take us and control us and use us as instruments and organs through whom He can express Himself in the body of Christ. Perhaps I can use my hands as a further illustration of this truth.

My hands are about average, I suppose--perhaps a little large for the size of my body, probably because I had to do a lot of farm work when I was a boy. But there is something I must tell you about these hands. They cannot play a violin. They cannot play the organ or the piano. They cannot paint a picture. They can barely hold a screwdriver to do a small repair job to keep things from falling apart at home. I have ungifted hands....

You will agree that it would be foolish for me to try to bring forth any delightful organ music using such ungifted hands. Is it not appalling, then, to think that we allow this very thing to happen in the body of Christ? We enlist people and tell them to get busy doing God's work, failing to realize the necessity of the Spirit's control and functioning if there is to be a spiritual result. Tragedy in the Church: The Missing Gifts, 30-31.

"Lord, maybe the reason we enlist ungifted people is that the gifted people aren't functioning properly, aren't using the gifts you gifted them with. Move in our midst, Holy Spirit, that everyone in the Body might actively serve, each one using the gift He's been given for Your service. Amen."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/ungifted-hands/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net