

What comes to your mind when you hear the word church?



The Greek word translated in the New Testament for church is the word **ekklesia**.

Ekklesia means an assembly or gathering of people and comes from ek meaning "out of" and kaleo meaning "to call".

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So the **ekklesia** is an assembly or movement of people that have been called out around an idea or conviction.

There is a **danger** in every church age that the movement of God's people is diminished, and we become just a place.





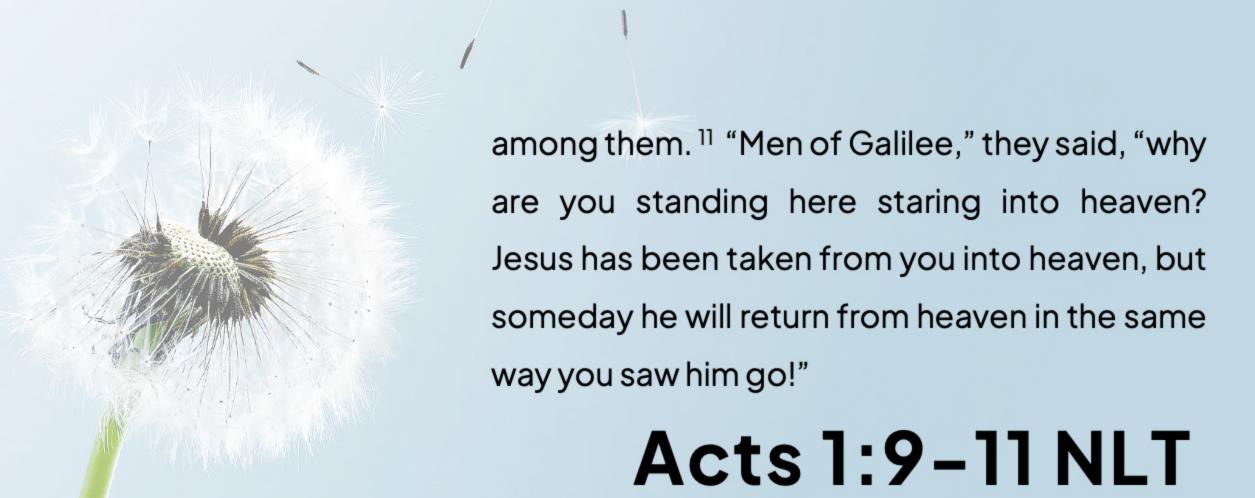
<sup>7</sup> He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

# Acts 1:6-8 NLT



<sup>9</sup> After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. <sup>10</sup> As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood

Acts 1:9-11 NLT





Is the church a place you attend or a **movement** of people that you are **personally** a part of?



Two things that are important if the church wants to return to being the **ekklesia**.



<sup>7</sup> They brought in the two disciples and demanded, "By what power, or in whose name, have you done this?"

<sup>8</sup> Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, <sup>9</sup> are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? <sup>10</sup> Let me clearly state to all

of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup> For Jesus is the one referred to in the Scriptures, where it says,

'The stone that you builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.'

<sup>12</sup> There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved."

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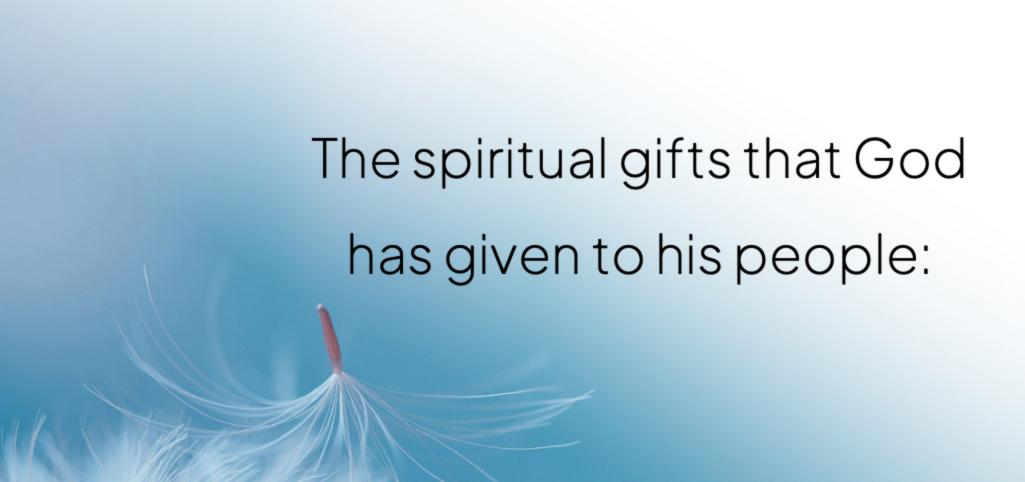
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## Acts 1:8 NLT

There are two ways the Holy Spirit empowers us:

Through the Spiritual Gifts.



The spiritual gifts that God

has given to his people:

Administration

Apostle

Discernment

Evangelism

Exhortation

Faith

Giving

Healing

Helps

Hospitality

Knowledge

Leadership

Mercy

Prophecy

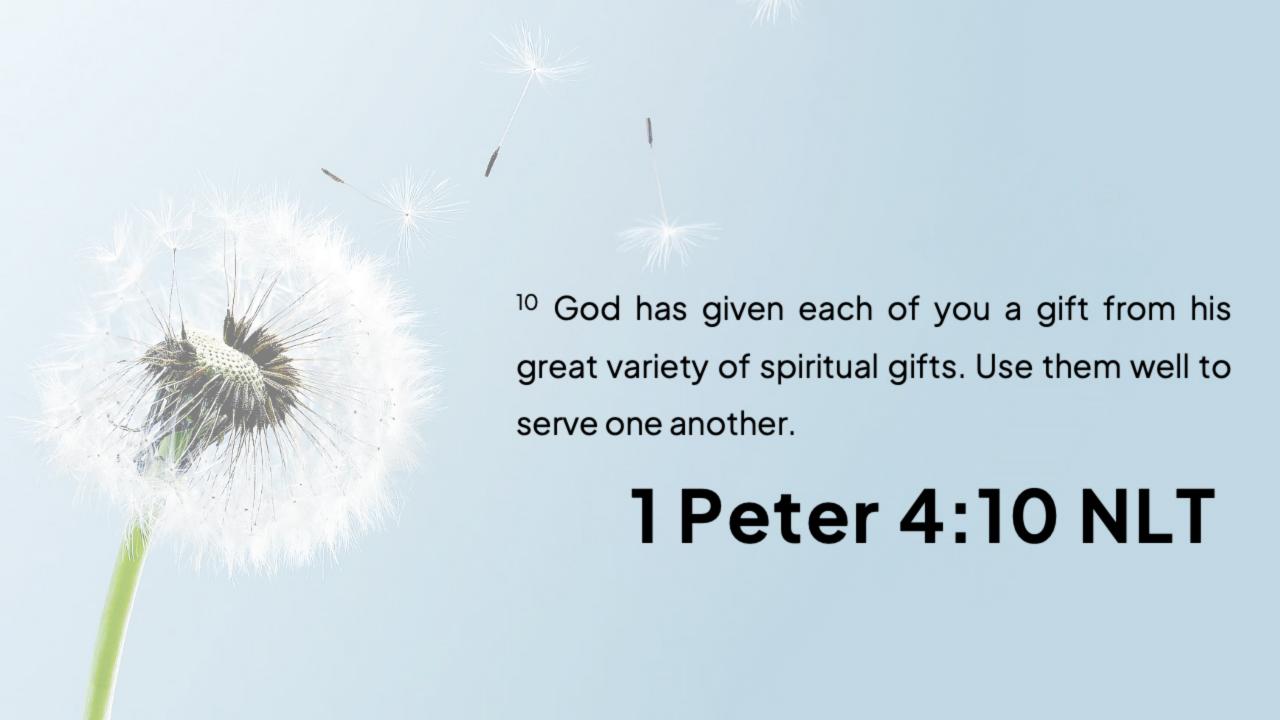
Serving

Speaking in tongues

Teaching (sometimes

known as shepherding)

Wisdom



### To witness

<sup>31</sup> After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

Acts 4:31 NLT

### To witness

<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 9:17, 20 NLT

### To witness

<sup>20</sup> And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is indeed the Son of God!"

Acts 9:17, 20 NLT

