



# OPERATING IN THE GIFT OF HEALINGS & THE WORKING OF MIRACLES

*For Apostolic Pentecostal  
Leaders & Believers*

ELDER KEITH J. WALKER



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*Written by*  
Elder Keith Joel Walker

[whpctuttle.com](http://whpctuttle.com)

## Introduction

This booklet is written to encourage, equip, and protect Apostolic Pentecostal believers who desire to function in the supernatural gifts God gives His church — specifically the gift of healings and the working of miracles (two of the nine gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12). It sets out biblical definitions, foundations, practical steps for operation, safeguards, training ideas, and simple ministry tools you can use in meetings, house visits, and personal ministry.

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18. Scriptural foundation (key passages)

- 1 Corinthians 12:7–11, 28–30 — lists spiritual gifts, including “the gifts of healings” and “the working of miracles.”
- James 5:14–16 — anointing the sick with oil; elders praying for healing.
- Matthew 10:1; Luke 9:1; 10:9 — Jesus gave the Twelve (and the 72) authority to heal.
- Acts 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 28 — examples of Spirit-empowered healings and signs.
- Isaiah 53:4–5; Psalm 103:2–3; Exodus 15:26 — God as healer; prophetic promise.

## 1. Definitions (Apostolic Pentecostal understanding)

- Gift of Healings (gifts of healings): A Spirit-empowered gifting whereby God brings restorative healing to those who are sick or infirm. This can be instantaneous or progressive, physical or emotional, and sometimes multiple healings in one situation. It is manifested through prayer, laying on of hands, anointing, words of knowledge, and the faith-filled

obedience of minister and recipient (1 Cor 12:9; James 5:14–15).

- Working of Miracles: A distinct Spirit-originated gift resulting in extraordinary interventions that alter natural course or cause visible supernatural outcomes (examples: raising from the dead, restraining natural forces, immediate deliverance, sudden breakthroughs). The working of miracles is often public and unmistakable, done for God's glory and to authenticate the gospel (1 Cor 12:10; Acts 3; Acts 9:36–42).

1. Foundations and Essential Doctrinal Prerequisites  
Apostolic Pentecostal conviction holds that proper functioning in the gifts of the Spirit flows from the biblical pattern of salvation and Spirit-baptism.

## Core Spiritual Foundations

- Relationship with God: A life of repentance, obedience to Scripture, baptism in Jesus' name, continual seeking of the Holy Spirit, and pursuit of holiness and humility (Hebrews 12:14; 2 Tim 2:21).
- Dependence on the Spirit: Gifts are operated by the Holy Spirit, not by technique. Cultivate prayer, worship, fasting, and sensitivity to the Spirit's promptings (Acts 13:2; Luke 5:16).
- Sound doctrine and apostolic accountability: Teachings and practice must align with Scripture

and be under the oversight of elders/lead apostles to protect against deception and pride (1 Tim 4:1–2; Heb 13:17).

- Faith and love: Gifts operate best where faith and love are present; love governs the exercise of gifts (1 Cor 13; James 2:14–17).

## Essential Doctrinal Prerequisites (Apostolic Pentecostal teaching)

- Born of water and Spirit: John 3:5 teaches that one must be born of water and the Spirit. Acts 2:38 provides the New Testament pattern of repentance and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.
- Baptism in the Holy Ghost with initial evidence of speaking in tongues: Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44–46; Acts 19:5–6 show that when the Holy Spirit fell on believers they spoke in other tongues as the initial evidence. Apostolic Pentecostal practice holds that the baptism in the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues is the normative empowering experience for believers to be used in the nine gifts of the Spirit (Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 12:7).
- Practical implication: Those who desire to operate in the gifts are taught to receive Jesus as Lord, be baptized in Jesus' name for remission of sins, and seek the Holy Ghost. Pastors should teach, pray, and provide accountable opportunities for believers to

receive and steward these experiences.

Sample steps to receive the Holy Ghost (teaching practice)

1. Repentance — turn from sin and prepare your heart.
2. Water baptism — be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
3. Pray and ask — earnestly seek the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4–8).
4. Expect the initial evidence — be open to speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance (Acts 2:4).
5. Discipleship — report to elders, receive instruction, and be mentored in the stewardship of the Spirit.
6. Practical steps to prepare to operate
7. Personal check-up

- Confess sin; pursue reconciliation; grow in humility.
- Fast and pray for fresh infilling and sensitivity.
- Study healing and miracle accounts; memorize key verses (Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 10:1; James 5:14–15).

1. Practice and training

- Participate in a supervised healing school or training led by mature apostolic ministers.

- Role-play ministry scenarios (anointing, laying on hands, brief prayer, words of knowledge).
- Learn team ministry dynamics: intercessor, discerner, elder, follow-up.

## 1. Develop spiritual senses

- Practice listening prayer to hear the Lord's promptings.
- Test words of knowledge/prophecy through prayer and leader confirmation.
- Grow in discernment to distinguish spiritual fruit from emotionalism.

## 1. How to minister in the gift of healings — step-by-step

2. Enter prayerfully: Begin with worship and quiet prayer to invite the Lord and center the team.
3. Assess and ask: Briefly ask the person their need and medical status; obtain consent. Be respectful and pastoral.
4. Call elders or a team: Whenever possible minister with at least one other mature believer or elder present (James 5 model).
5. Anoint with oil (James 5): Explain biblical significance; anoint appropriately (forehead/hands) while praying. Oil is symbolic and an act of faith.
6. Lay hands and pray specifically: Lay hands on the

affected area or head; pray short, scriptural, faith-filled prayers (e.g., “By the stripes of Jesus and in the name of Jesus, be healed.”). Use Scripture rather than flowery language.

7. Proclaim and watch: Proclaim what Jesus has done and what you believe He will do. Watch for immediate evidence (pain relief, movement, warmth).

8. Give instructions and pastoral care: Encourage faith; provide practical follow-up (rest, hydration, medical care if appropriate).

9. Record and testify: Record the testimony, immediate signs, and follow-up results. Testimonies strengthen the church and provide accountability.

10. How to minister in the working of miracles — step-by-step

All the same essentials listed for healings, with these emphases:

- Expect the extraordinary: Pray boldly and expect God to intervene beyond natural means.
- Seek confirmation: Miracles often accompany powerful conviction or gospel opportunity; seek spiritual confirmation before public pronouncements.
- Immediately glorify God: Ensure the miracle points people to Christ, not to the minister.
- Contain and protect: Miraculous events can draw crowds and excitement; provide order, pastoral care,

and follow-up.

## 1. Distinguishing the two gifts in practice

- Gift of Healings: Often operates in private or small-group ministry. Deals frequently with physical illnesses, progressive recoveries, or emotional restoration. Commonly used and repeated.
- Working of Miracles: Tends to be dramatic and unmistakable (e.g., raising the dead, dramatic deliverances, supernaturally altered circumstances). Less frequent and often confirms major gospel advances.

## 1. Practical ministry examples for an Apostolic Pentecostal context

- Church services: Maintain an altar ministry team trained to anoint, pray, and give brief pastoral counsel. Use ushers to keep order.
- Home/bedside ministry: Bring anointing oil, Scripture cards, and a small team; obtain permission and plan pastoral follow-up.
- Evangelistic meetings: Preach repentance and baptism in Jesus' name; expect signs to accompany the Word.
- Prayer lines and healing rooms: Use trained intercessors, discerners, and leaders; limit time per person; schedule follow-ups.

## 1. Words and prayers (sample phrases)

- “In Jesus’ name I command pain to leave your body. Be healed now.”
- “By the stripes Jesus bore, you are healed.”
- “Receive strength in your limbs now; in Jesus’ name.” Keep prayers short, scriptural, and confident. Avoid speculative medical diagnosis and psychic language. Let the Spirit direct words and timing.

## 1. Testing and confirming results

- Look for physical evidence when possible (reduced pain, increased movement, restored function).
- Re-check after 24–72 hours and again at one week. Document progress.
- Genuine healings typically produce a changed testimony, renewed faith, and fruit (spiritual hunger, repentance).

## 1. Safeguards, ethics, and pastoral cautions

- Never guarantee healing: Pray in faith, but acknowledge God’s sovereign will. Do not promise results for money, attendance, or service.
- Do not discourage medical care: Encourage medical diagnosis and adherence to prescribed treatment unless God clearly directs otherwise. Use wisdom.
- Avoid spectacle and manipulation: Do not pressure

people or manufacture drama. Allow the Spirit to move naturally.

- Protect privacy: Ask permission before sharing or publishing testimonies; secure written consent for public use.
- Accountability and reporting: Keep leadership oversight of reported healings and miracles to prevent false claims and ensure pastoral care.
- Watch for counterfeit manifestations: Test experiences by Scripture and fruit (Galatians 5:22–23; 1 John 4:1). Wrong spirits can imitate signs.

## 1. Dealing with unanswered prayer

- Provide pastoral presence, continued prayer, and faithful accompaniment.
- Teach on suffering, God's sovereignty, and long-term faithfulness (Romans 8; James 1:2–4).
- Continue intercession and fasting; enlist mature intercessors and consider prophetic counsel under leadership accountability.
- Remember God can use suffering to produce spiritual fruit; do not abandon pastoral care when healing does not occur.

## 1. Training outline for a church healing school (basic 6-week track)

Week 1: Biblical theology of healing — God as healer, Jesus' ministry, apostolic examples. Week 2: Gifts

of the Spirit and the two gifts (healings, miracles) — definitions and distinctions. Week 3: Practical ministry skills — anointing, laying on hands, words of knowledge, listening prayer. Week 4: Spiritual formation — prayer, fasting, holiness, humility. Week 5: Ministering under authority — working with elders, accountability, ethics, and medical considerations. Week 6: Hands-on practice — supervised ministry sessions, feedback, follow-up procedures.

## 2. Recordkeeping and testimony handling

- Create a simple ministry form (sample below) capturing: name, contact, need, what was prayed, immediate result, follow-up results after 24 hours/1 week/1 month, and consent to share testimony.
- Keep records confidential and available to elders for pastoral follow-up. Use testimonies to build faith but always secure permission.

### Sample ministry form (brief)

- Name:
- Contact:
- Date:
- Need/Condition:
- Minister(s):
- What was prayed:
- Immediate results observed:

- Follow-up (24–72 hrs):
- Follow-up (1 week):
- Consent to public testimony (yes/no):
- Notes / Medical referrals given:

## 1. Recommended readings and resources

- Read healing accounts in the Gospels and Acts.
- Study 1 Corinthians 12–14 and James 5 carefully.
- Consult trusted Apostolic Pentecostal resources on the Holy Spirit and gifts; ask your pastor for recommended local and denominational materials.

## 1. Final encouragement and posture

- Be bold but teachable. Pursue the gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor 12:31) with humility and love (1 Cor 13).
- Seek tangible fruit — changed lives, healings, and people drawn to Jesus — while always pointing to Christ and His finished work.
- Remain under apostolic and pastoral covering. Gifts flourish best in ordered, accountable communities.

## 1. Short closing prayer (example)

“Lord Jesus, we ask for a fresh outpouring of Your Spirit. Fill Your people with faith and compassion. Make us vessels of Your healing and miracles, to the glory of Your name. Teach us to walk in holiness, humility, and power. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

## Appendix — Sample prayers and an outline to teach receiving the Holy Ghost

### Sample prayer to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost

“Lord Jesus, I repent of my sins and receive Your forgiveness. I have been baptized in Your name and I now ask for the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. Fill me with the Holy Ghost and fire. I receive the Holy Spirit now—breathe on me, empower me, and give me the initial evidence of speaking with other tongues as You will. Use me to serve and build Your church. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

### Pastoral Note on Implementation

- Pastors and leaders: teach this material, adapt training to your local context, provide supervised opportunities for hands-on ministry, and maintain records and accountability.
- Ensure every ministry is pastorally sensitive, doctrinally sound, and Spirit-led.

