



# SPX Small Groups

*Life is Better Together*

Sent: Week 4 May 31  
Solemnity of Pentecost



- 1) What graduation made you proudest? Was it your own or someone else's?
- 2) What is the oddest experience you have ever had at a graduation?
- 3) At his Ascension, Jesus gives the apostles the Great Commission to go and make disciples of all nations. He waits 10 days to send the Holy Spirit to help them. What would it have been like to be an apostle in those ten days?
- 4) Have you ever been "filled with the Holy Spirit?" What was that like? If not, what do you imagine it would have been like to be an apostle on Pentecost (Acts 2: 1-4)?
- 5) St Paul talked about how the Holy Spirit gives out gifts or charisms for the benefit of others - *To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.* (Several of them are mentioned in 1 Cor 12:3-13). Fr. Mike also mentioned a list of 24 charisms that have been identified, which are attached on the next page. If you have not read the list, take a couple of minutes now to read through the various descriptions of the charisms.
  - a. Have you ever benefitted from one of these gifts at work in another person? For example, has someone's gift of music, writing, encouragement, teaching or prophecy ever led you to a deep encounter with God? How about some of the other charisms?
  - b. Which of the charisms might you have?
  - c. Are you aware of another person connecting with God through one of your charisms at work? Or have you gotten any feedback from other people saying that God has particularly gifted you in a specific way?
  - d. If you think you might have a charism, consider "experimenting" with it over the next week or so. Ask God for opportunities to use it to help others, and then see what happens.
- 6) What practical steps do you want to take based on our discussion tonight?

## Charism Summary Guide

<b>Charism</b>	<b>Description</b>
Administration	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's wisdom by providing the planning and coordination needed to accomplish good things.
Celibacy	Empowers a Christian to be most fulfilled and spiritually fruitful by remaining unmarried and celibate for the sake of Christ.
Craftsmanship	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's goodness to others through artistic or creative work that beautifies and/or orders the physical world.
Discernment of Spirits	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's wisdom by accurately perceiving a divine or demonic presence in certain people, places or things
Encouragement	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love, nurturing others through his/her presence and words of comfort, encouragement and counsel.
Evangelism	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love by sharing the faith with others in a way that draws them to become disciples of Jesus and responsible members of his Church.
Faith	Empowers a Christian to be an effective agent of God's purposes through an unusual trust in the love, power, and provision of God and a remarkable freedom to act on this trust.
Giving	Empowers a Christian to be a cheerful channel of God's provision by giving with exceptional generosity to those in need.
Healing	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love through which God cures illness and restores health when healing is unlikely to occur quickly or to happen at all.
Helps	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness by using his/her talents and charisms to enable other individuals to serve God and people more effectively
Hospitality	Empowers a Christian to be the a generous channel of God's love by warmly welcoming and caring for those in need of food, shelter, and friendship.
Intercessory Prayer	Empowers the intense prayer of a Christian for others to be a means by which God's love and deliverance reaches those in need.

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<b>Charism</b>	<b>Description</b>
Knowledge	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's trust through diligent study and intellectual activity that enables us to better understand God, ourselves, and the universe.
Leadership	Empowers a Christian to be an agent of God's purposes by sharing a compelling vision of a better future with others and by directing the overall efforts of a group as they work together to make the vision a reality.
Mercy	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love through practical deeds of compassion that relieve the distress of those who suffer and help them experience God's love.
Missionary	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness to others by effectively and joyfully using their charisms in a second culture.
Music	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creative goodness to others through writing or performing music for the delight of others and the praise of God.
Pastoring	Empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love through building a community that nurtures the relationships and long-term spiritual growth of a group.
Prophecy	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of divine truth and wisdom by communicating a word or call of God to individuals or a group through inspired words or actions.
Service	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's purposes by recognizing the logistical gaps or unmet needs that can prevent good things from happening and by personally doing whatever it takes to solve the problem and meet the need.
Teaching	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's truth and wisdom by enabling others to learn information and skills that help them reach their fullest spiritual and personal potential.
Voluntary Poverty	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's loving presence by living a life of cheerful, voluntary simplicity or poverty in order to identify with Jesus and the poor.
Wisdom	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness through remarkable insight that enables him/her to come up with creative solutions to specific problems and make good decisions.
Writing	Empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creativity by using words to create works of truth or beauty that reflect the fullness of human experience and bring glory to God.