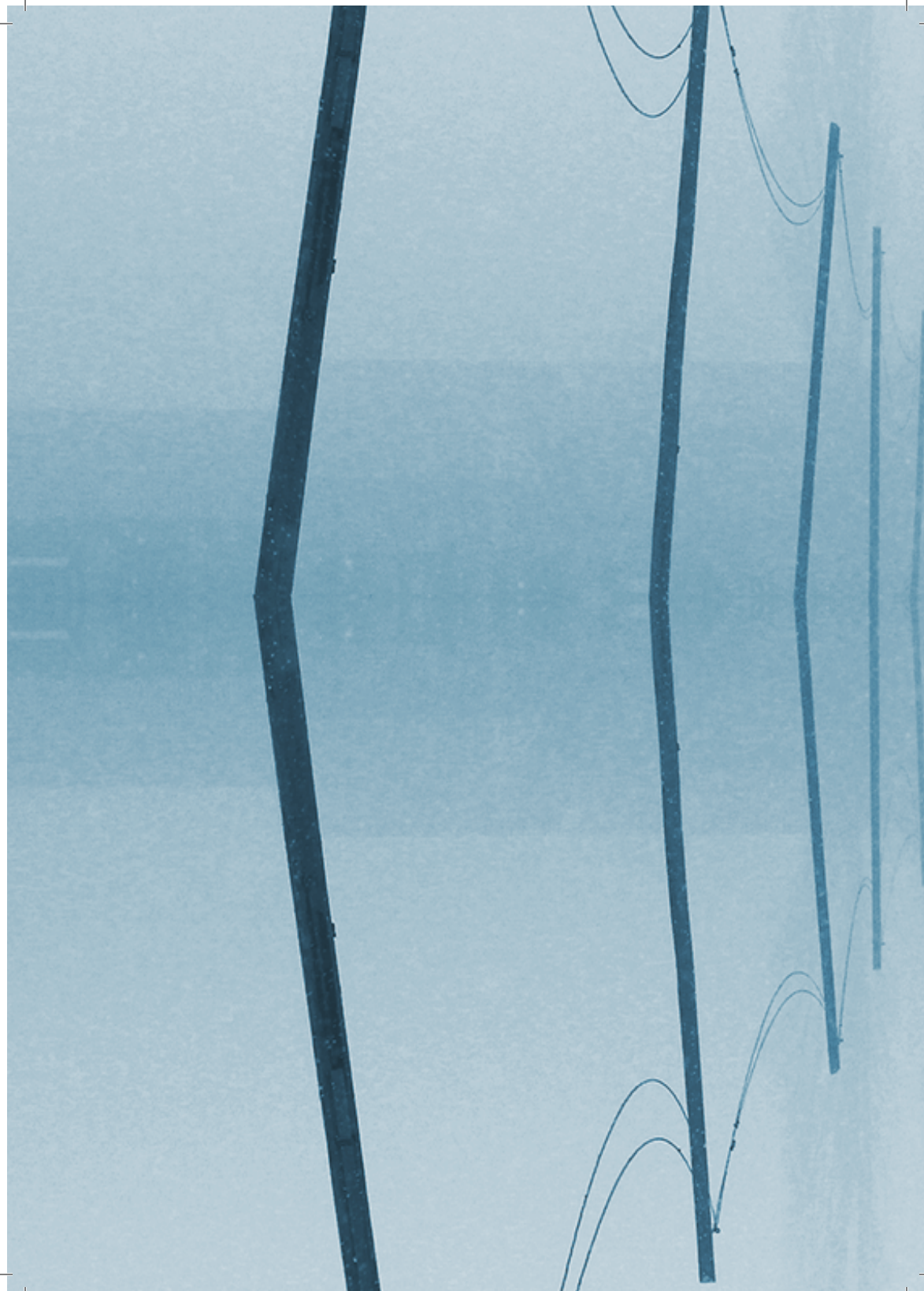
The background is a textured, light blue surface. On the left side, there are several dark blue, vertical, slightly curved lines that resemble poles or wires. These lines are connected by thin, curved, light blue lines that create a sense of movement or tension. The overall composition is minimalist and modern.

# NO ORDINARY LIFE

STUDY GUIDE





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# LEADER'S GUIDE:

This study guide is here to help you lead a fun and transformative eGroup study over the next few weeks that will see each person progress and grow.

Use this guide, along with the DVDs and weekly Study Guides, for a life-changing, interactive experience.

## **BEFORE YOU MEET:**

Ask God to prepare the hearts and minds of the people in your eGroup. Ask Him to show each of you how to apply what you learn to your own heart to see growth and to move forward.

Preview the DVD and read through the study guide for that week. Think about what you might answer for each question. Make notes in your study guide if you want to.

## **SETTING UP:**

Take time before everyone arrives to prepare some snacks to share with everyone, set up the room you will use, check that there are enough seats, and try to create a relaxed and comfortable environment to meet in. You might want to play music quietly to create a relaxed atmosphere when everyone arrives, or move the furniture in your living room to make the space inviting.


Have a Bible handy for verses that you might want to look up during discussion.

## **HOW TO HOST YOUR GATHERING AND USE YOUR STUDY GUIDE:**

**ENGAGE:** Welcome each person as they arrive. Spend time chatting, getting to know one another, or just sharing about the week. Your relationships as a group are as important as the time you spend watching the DVD or in discussion. A relaxed and friendly environment is an easy place to learn and hear from God.

**RECAP:** After the first session you may wish to spend a bit of time each week recapping how your last seven days has been, inviting members to share any opportunities they had throughout the week to apply what they learned and how their individual activation went.

**WATCH:** After you have spent some time engaging with each other watch the DVD for the week.




**DISCUSS:** Read out each question in the study guide, allowing time for everyone to share their thoughts or experiences if they desire.

When a question arises, ask the group for their input, and resist the urge to answer it yourself straight away. Your primary role is to create an environment where people feel comfortable to be themselves and participate, not to provide all the answers to all of their questions. Don't be afraid of silence as participants think of their response to the questions.

Remember, the goal is not necessarily to 'get through' all of the questions. The main priority is for each person to learn and engage in dynamic discussion.

**PRAY:** Ask the group to pray for each other from week to week, especially about key issues that arise during your discussion time. This is how you begin to build authentic relationship, and encourage spiritual growth within the group.

**ACTIVATE:** As a group, read out and talk about the action in the study guide for that week. Decide together to commit to doing this action during the week to help you each grow and engage with God individually.





## **SUGGESTED TIME FRAMES FOR YOUR GATHERING:**

**ENGAGE:** 15 minutes

**RECAP:** 10 minutes

**WATCH:** 10 minutes

**DISCUSS:** 30 minutes

**PRAY:** 5-10 minutes

**ACTIVATE:** 5 minutes

(Please note that these are just suggested times, you may wish to take longer in certain areas. However, we do recommend keeping your gathering to a maximum of one and a half hours in consideration of others' time)

## **KEYS TO A DYNAMIC eGROUP**


**Relationships:** Meaningful, encouraging relationships are the foundation of a dynamic eGroup. Discussion and prayer are important elements of a gathering, but the depth of each part is often dependent upon the depth of the relationships between members.


**Availability:** Building a sense of community within your group requires members to prioritise their relationships with one another. This means being available to listen, care for one another, and meet each other's needs.

**Mutual Respect:** Mutual respect is shown when members value others' opinions (even when they disagree) and are careful to never belittle or embarrass others in the group (including their spouses, who may or may not be present).

**Openness:** A healthy group environment encourages sincerity and transparency. Members treat each other with grace in areas of weakness, allowing each other room to grow.

**Confidentiality:** To develop authenticity and a sense of safety within the group, each member must be able to trust that things discussed within the group will not be shared outside the group.






**Shared Responsibility:** Group members will share the responsibility of gatherings by using their God-given abilities to serve at each meeting. Some may greet, some may prepare food, some may pray, etc. Ideally, each person should be available to care for one another as needed.

**Sensitivity:** Dynamic eGroups are born when the leader consistently seeks and is responsive to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, following His leading throughout the meeting as opposed to sticking to the “agenda”. This is especially important during the discussion and prayer time.

**Fun!** Dynamic gatherings take the time to have fun! Create an atmosphere for fun, and be willing to laugh at yourself every now and then!



Week One:

# ACCESSING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE

**ENGAGE:** Spend time connecting with each other.

**WATCH:** Watch Week One of the DVD.

**DISCUSS:**

*"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."*

**John 14:12**

Many people think it's impossible to do the same things that Jesus did, but as the key verse for this week shows, Jesus actually tells us that we CAN do the same things that He did.

**Question: What do you think of this verse? Imagine that Jesus was saying that to you personally, how would you feel about that?**

Acts 10:38 says, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power." In order to live the life that Jesus is speaking of, the key is to have a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

**Question: What kind of relationship do you think Jesus might have had with the Holy Spirit? Could we relate to Him in the same way?**

The Holy Spirit wants us to produce purity and power as a result of His work in our lives. If we want this purity and power, we should ask the Holy Spirit to help us get to know Him and walk daily with Him.

**Question: Why doesn't God want us to access these gifts without first accessing Him?**


Read 1 Corinthians 12:7-11. This passage defines the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit that we can access. Ps David believes that every believer can operate in any gift of the Spirit.

**Question: Which of these gifts sound like ones you'd like to have and use in your life? Why would you like these gifts?**

These gifts don't come from us, they're passed on to us from the Holy Spirit and are used to bless and meet the needs of others.

**Question: What is the point of having and using spiritual gifts? Does it matter if we don't ask the Holy Spirit for them or use them?**





“Charismata” are the grace gifts that God gives us; gifts that we don’t deserve. These gifts tell us that God wants to bless us and others, and that it’s because He’s loving, not because we are perfect, that we can access them.


**Question: If we don’t deserve these gifts, why does God still give them to us?**


Ps David mentioned a few situations where we can use spiritual gifts in our daily lives.

**Question: Can you think of any situations in your daily life where you might have been passing by opportunities to use these gifts to bless people around you?**

**PRAY:** Pray that during this series your trust in the Holy Spirit would grow, and you’d get to know Him on a more personal level.

**ACTIVATE:** Think about situations in your life this week where you’d like to access some of these gifts.





Week Two

# THE REVELATORY GIFTS

**ENGAGE:** Spend time connecting with each other.

**RECAP:** Were there any situations during your week that you can see that having the Holy Spirit's help and power would be important?

**WATCH:** Watch Week Two of the DVD.

**DISCUSS:**

*"For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit... to another the ability to distinguish between spirits."*

**1 Corinthians 12:8, 10**

The revelatory gifts enable people to receive divine revelation, (supernatural information), from God that lets them understand what God is wanting to speak to them.

## **THE WORD OF KNOWLEDGE**

The gift of knowledge is when we receive supernatural information that we haven't learned in any way, but the Holy Spirit 'drops' it into our spirit. For example, when Jesus knew the specific background of the woman at the well, (John 4).


Ps David told the story about receiving a word of knowledge that "Lyn is in trouble." When we are obedient to the impressions of the Holy Spirit, God can do miracles through us.

**Question: Has God ever spoken to you like this, or do you know of anyone who's experienced something similar? What happened as a result of that?**

God is always speaking to us, even if we don't realise it. Often God gives us words of knowledge, but we ignore the thought because we don't recognise it as a word from God.

**Question: How do you know that you've received a word of knowledge, and once you know, what do you do about it?**

(Tips: you get a hunch, the only way to really know is to give it a go, don't be worried if you make a mistake)





### **THE WORD OF WISDOM**

The word of wisdom can be given when we don't know what to do in a situation, God can give us wisdom about what to do or say.

**Question:** Have you ever experienced God giving you a word of wisdom? What did you do with this?

**Question:** Discuss a time in your life that you could have benefited from a word of wisdom.

### **THE GIFT OF DISCERNING SPIRITS**

The gift of discerning spirits is when you understand whether a particular situation is coming from God's Spirit, a human spirit, or a demonic source. Sometimes when you walk into a room, you can feel the atmosphere of the room. This can influence the way that you feel (positive or negative).

**Question:** Have you experienced your mood changing like this when you've walked into a room?


Ps David mentioned that God can give you the power to change the atmosphere of a room.


**Question:** What are some ways that you can do this?

(Tips: Prayer, worship and praise, inviting the Holy Spirit into that space)

**PRAY:** Pray for each other that your fellowship, (companionship, partnership), with the Holy Spirit would grow and deepen. Ask Him to begin to speak to each of you personally during your week and show you things you need to know.

**ACTIVATE:** Share an area in your life that you might need one of these gifts this week. Make a point of asking the Holy Spirit for one of these gifts to help in any situation that arises.





Week Three

## **THE VOCAL GIFTS**

**ENGAGE:** Spend time connecting with each other.

**RECAP:** Did you ask God to give you a Revelatory gift in any situations this week? Or see a situation where you'd need one?

**WATCH:** Watch Week Three of the DVD.

**DISCUSS:**

*"To another prophecy... to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues."*

**1 Corinthians 12:10**

### **PROPHECY**

1 Corinthians 14:3 says the goal of prophecy is to strengthen, encourage, and comfort people, (to build up, cheer up, stir up). Prophecy should bring hope. In the New Testament prophecy is distinct from the Old Testament, because of what Jesus accomplished on the cross.

God often speaks to us in a way that's unique to our personality. Some people have words or thoughts come into their minds, some see visions or pictures, others feel something physically.

**Question: How does the Holy Spirit speak to you personally? Could this influence the way that you might receive prophecy for people?**

Sometimes we have to take a risk and step out of our comfort zone in order to speak out what God wants to say to someone.

**Question: Have you ever prophesied over someone? How did you feel about this? What was the response of the person who was receiving it?**

**Question: If you've been prophesied over, how has that impacted your own Christian journey?**

### **TONGUES**

The gift of tongues is the supernatural ability, given by the Holy Spirit, to speak in a language that you don't understand. When speaking in tongues you're not speaking to people, you're speaking to God, so tongues is also often called a prayer language.



**Question:** Have you ever been in a situation where you didn't know what pray or say to God, or felt too weak or discouraged to pray? How could tongues help in this situation?

The gift of tongues helps to build up our spirit and so can prepare us to operate in other gifts.

**Question:** Why might tongues 'take the least faith' as Ps David said?

### **INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES**

The Bible says that speaking in tongues in public requires interpretation, otherwise nobody can be edified. Instead of us speaking to God in an unknown language, publicly speaking in tongues can be used by God to speak through us to people in an unknown language - if it's interpreted.

It's important to remember that it's interpretation, not translation - because the person who interprets may not know the language either, but God gives them a sense of what the other person is saying so they can speak it out.


**Question:** What's the difference between interpretation and translation?

The Bible tells us that we're to earnestly desire these spiritual gifts. If we don't desire them, then we won't be able to use them. Our natural inclination is to stay in our comfort zone.

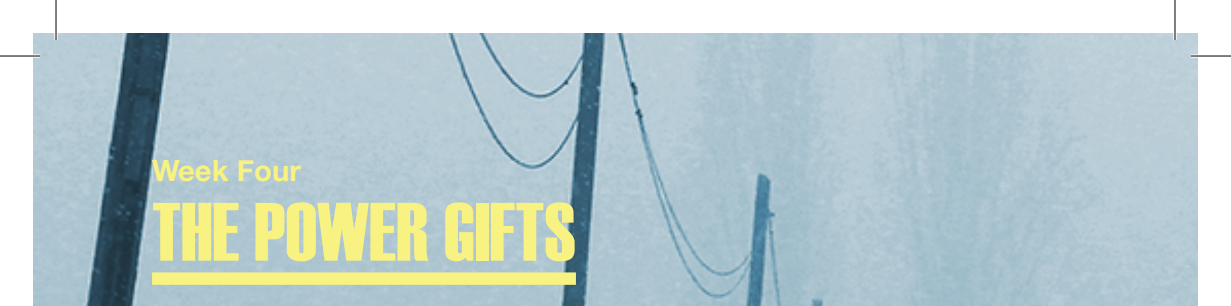
**Question:** What can we do to earnestly desire the gifts that God wants to give us?

**PRAY:** That God would stir you up to desire and seek His gifts, and that each of you would see the needs of people around you requiring you to operate in these gifts.

**ACTIVATE:** Be open to being prompted by the Holy Spirit to step out of your comfort zone this week and practice one of the gifts.







Week Four

## **THE POWER GIFTS**

**ENGAGE:** Spend time connecting with each other.

**RECAP:** Did you have an opportunity to practise one of these spiritual gifts in your home or workplace this week?

**WATCH:** Watch Week Four of the DVD.

**DISCUSS:**

Key Verse: To another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers. 1 Corinthians 12:9-10.

### **FAITH**

The gift of faith is on another level to our ordinary faith. This gift can suddenly be released in a moment to help you believe that God can do anything. This gift sets a new benchmark to step out from.

**Question: Have you ever experienced a moment when God gave you the supernatural faith to believe in an instant that God could bring breakthrough in a particular situation? What happened as a result?**

This gift of faith can motivate us to step out and use the other spiritual gifts that God can give us. Ps David spoke about receiving faith to pray for healing.

**Question: Have you ever felt overwhelmed or intimidated when facing a situation? How would this gift of faith change your outlook?**

### **HEALING**


The gift of healing is when we see the instant or gradual healing of a condition. Ps David spoke about the process that we should undergo to believe for healing over someone.

Hands up to heaven - PRAY

Hands on - COMMAND

It's important not to lose faith if the person isn't healed instantly. Be persistent in your prayers, but don't get offended if God doesn't answer your prayers straight away; there may be a reason that God doesn't want to heal them in that moment.

**Question: Why is it important not to just ask God for healing, but command it to happen?**



**Discuss:** Give an example of when you've experienced a healing, or saw someone else healed. How did that experience impact you?

Many people desire to have the gift of healing, but are afraid to step out. If you desire the gift of healing, the best thing you can do is to step out and just start praying for people.

**Question:** Is there anyone in the group who desires the gift of healing? Have you started praying for people to get healed?

### **MIRACLES**

The gift of miracles is when God overrides the natural order and brings supernatural breakthrough. Doubt is one thing that can prevent us from stepping out and believing for miracles. Doubts will come, but you need to know what to do with them.

**Question:** When you have doubts, what's the best response to these?


**Discuss:** Share with your eGroup a time you've witnessed a miracle happening.

In order to operate in these power gifts, we need to understand the authority that God has given us.

**Discuss:** What gifts has the Holy Spirit used you in, and what gifts would you like Him to help you with?

**PRAY:** If there's anyone in your group in need of healing or a miracle, gather around and lay hands on them and pray for breakthrough.

**ACTIVATE:** Continue to look for opportunities to step out in these spiritual gifts and bless other people in doing this.



**NOTES:**

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