# This resource offers some questions to ‘unwrap’ the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in Isaiah 11:2. Feel free to use these questions in small groups, individual times of reflection or corporate worship.

## ‘The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord’ (Isaiah 11:2)

This prophetic vision of the Messiah in the book of Isaiah reveals something of what a fruitful life in the Spirit looks like. We can ‘unwrap’ these six\* gifts, perfectly fulfilled in Jesus, and consider how they show up in our own lives.

*\*Some Christian traditions name seven gifts of the Spirit, with the seventh being piety. This is based on how the original Hebrew in Isaiah is translated. For the purposes of this resource, we are focusing on the six gifts mentioned in the NIV translation.*

### Wisdom

‘In the Hebrew Bible, “chokmah” refers to wisdom, skill, or expertise. It encompasses both practical skills and moral insight. Wisdom is often portrayed as a divine attribute and a gift from God, essential for righteous living and understanding his will. It is not merely intellectual knowledge but involves the application of knowledge in making godly decisions.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/2451.htm>)

Questions:

* Do you see this kind of wisdom in your life?
* Do you see this kind of wisdom in others’ lives?
* Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be wiser?

### Understanding

‘The Hebrew word “binah” refers to the faculty of understanding, insight, or discernment. It is often used in the context of wisdom literature in the Bible, emphasising the ability to perceive and comprehend the deeper meanings and implications of knowledge. “Binah” is not merely intellectual knowledge but involves a moral and spiritual dimension, guiding one to make righteous decisions.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/998.htm>)

Questions:

* Do you see this kind of understanding in your life?
* Do you see this kind of understanding in others’ lives?
* Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you to have greater understanding?

### Counsel

‘The Hebrew word “etsah” primarily refers to counsel or advice, often in the context of guidance or strategic planning. It can denote both human and divine counsel, reflecting the wisdom or plans of individuals or God. In the biblical narrative, “etsah” is frequently associated with the wisdom literature, where it underscores the importance of seeking wise counsel and the consequences of ignoring it.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6098.htm>)

Questions:

* Are you offering this kind of counsel to others?
* Are you receiving this kind of counsel from others?
* Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you to offer or receive counsel?

### Might

‘The Hebrew word “geburah” primarily denotes strength, might, or power. It is often used to describe the might of God, the valour of warriors, or the strength of individuals. In the context of God’s attributes, it emphasises his omnipotence and sovereign power. When applied to humans, it can refer to physical strength, bravery in battle, or moral fortitude.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1369.htm>)

Questions:

* Do you see this kind of might in your life?
* Do you see this kind of might in others’ lives?
* Where is the Holy Spirit prompting you to be stronger?

### Knowledge

‘The Hebrew word “daath” primarily refers to knowledge, understanding, or perception. It encompasses both intellectual comprehension and experiential knowledge. In the biblical context, “daath” often implies a deep, intimate understanding that goes beyond mere factual information, encompassing moral and spiritual dimensions.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/1847.htm>)

Questions:

* Do you see this kind of knowledge in your life?
* Do you see this kind of knowledge in others’ lives?
* Is the Holy Spirit prompting you to know more about something?

### Fear of the Lord

‘The Hebrew word “yirah” primarily denotes a profound respect or reverence, often in the context of a relationship with God. It encompasses both the fear of God’s power and judgement and a reverential awe of his majesty and holiness. In the Old Testament, “yirah” is frequently associated with wisdom and obedience, as the fear of the Lord is considered the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10).’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3374.htm>)

‘The name Yhvh is the personal, covenantal name of God in the Hebrew Bible.’ (<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3068.htm>)

Questions:

* Do you see this fear of the Lord in your life?
* Do you see this fear of the Lord in others’ lives?
* Is the Holy Spirit prompting you in this area of respect and reverence?