

Spiritual Gifts

The Bible tells us that we all have spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit that are created to balance the church and provide for all the skills and spiritual abilities needed to give the church spiritual vitality and power. We need to study the Scriptures on the subject, learn about those gifts, find out what our gifts are, and then practice them in the body.

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

What are spiritual gifts?

To whom are spiritual gifts given? *Romans 12:5-6*

Are we to seek particular gifts? *1 Corinthians 12:31*

Why are spiritual gifts given? *Ephesians 4:12-13*

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

How does the analogy of the human body help explain spiritual gifts?

What happens when I am not exercising my spiritual gift?

What is the difference between spiritual gifts and talents such as music, art, writing, etc.?

Are spiritual gifts different than fruits of the Spirit? *Galatians 5:22-23*

Can a person have more than one spiritual gift? *1 Peter 4:10, 1 Timothy 4:14, Romans 12:4*

What are the spiritual gifts listed in each of these passages?

Ephesians 4:11

1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28-30

Romans 12:6-8

1 Peter 4:10-11

What spiritual gifts should all Christians practice?

1 Corinthians 14:1

Galatians 5:13

Colossians 3:23-24

Colossians 3:16

Matthew 28:20

Hebrews 3:13; 10:25

Luke 6:38

Romans 12:13

1 Timothy 3:4

Proverbs 17:2; 16:32

Luke 10:37

Galatians 6:2

Colossians 3:12

If a gift is not being exercised or practiced in the body, God may call on us to fill the gap, even if it is not our gift.

How can Satan counterfeit spiritual gifts?

How can spiritual gifts be misused or abused?

How can I discover my spiritual gift(s)?

MEMORIZE: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Summary of the Spiritual Gifts

APOSTLE - One of the original men who saw the resurrected Christ and were commissioned with authority to proclaim the gospel to the new church—may mean that the gift is a missionary gift to be focused to unreached people and church planting.

PROPHET - An inspired spokesman who declares biblical truth and is a messenger from God to challenge people to godliness and godly living.

EVANGELIST - The ability to share the gospel of salvation with great ease, courage, and effectiveness.

PASTOR - A shepherd who leads, guards, comforts, and cares for his flock, the church. An especially caring and sensitive person.

TEACHER - One who can clearly and effectively declare, explain, break down, and present what the Scriptures say.

MESSAGE OF WISDOM - Ability to apply knowledge to difficult situations, to weigh their true nature, and exercise spiritual insight in varying circumstances.

MESSAGE OF KNOWLEDGE - Ability to search, systematize, and summarize the teaching of the Word of God—deep insight into divine truth of Scripture and spiritual matters.

FAITH - Ability to lay hold of God's promises for results far beyond what man is able to achieve. Able to trust God no matter how hopeless things may look.

HEALING - Superhuman ability to restore health immediately to the body and mind of another person.

MIRACLES - Superhuman ability to alter the natural laws and processes of nature by supernatural power.

DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS (DISCERNMENT) - Ability to see behind the surface words and actions to discover hidden motives or understand the actual feelings and situations.

TONGUES - Ability to speak words in a language totally unfamiliar to the speaker.

INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES - Ability to interpret languages never learned for praise and worship and building up of the body.

HELPING (SERVING) - Ability to assist and support the body of Christ in practical ways, often behind the scenes, with great faithfulness and delight. A worker in practical ways.

ADMINISTRATION (LEADERSHIP) - Ability to lead others tactfully, see order amid chaos and to bring it to pass, and to apply good common direction to situations.

ENCOURAGING (EXHORTATION) - Ability to stimulate people to act upon what God has said. Motivate people to change based on biblical truth.

GIVING - Ability to manage resources for most effective use in the body. Sensitive to and provides for needs within the body—often quietly and behind the scenes.

MERCY - Ability to enter into the needs, hurts, heartaches, and sorrows of others and to minister cheer and encouragement to the hurting.

Qualities that May or May Not be Spiritual Gifts

HOSPITALITY - Ability to provide meals, housing, and a relaxing atmosphere for people who may be lonely, traveling, poor, or in other situations of need.

SINGLENESS (CELIBACY) - Ability to remain single and not be tempted by the attraction of the opposite sex, in order to be able to focus more fully on spiritual things and godly activities.

INTERCESSION - Ability to spend long periods of time in prayer and fervently intercede for needs and problems.

CREATIVITY - Ability to create art or music, arrange and produce displays, flyers, posters, announcements, and other things that enhance and further the growth of Christians.