



CHURCHALIVE

L O V E • G R O W • L E A D

***Foundations 401:  
Spiritual Gifts***



## THE IMPORTANCE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.”*

**1 Corinthians 12:1**

### **1. He gave gifts for the equipping of the saints.**

God designed spiritual gifts to equip each of us to do works of service, aka our mission. In order that the body could be built up until we reach unity in faith, unity in the knowledge of God, and maturity in Christ. **Ephesians 4:11-16 NIV**

### **2. We use our gifts until everyone looks exactly like Christ and we are the perfect dwelling for the Holy Spirit.**

Until we, as a Church universal and as people outside the church, reach Christ's perfection we need to be using our gifts. We are being built together into a dwelling place for Him. Consequently, if some aren't using their gifts, the body isn't going to reach the maturity it could have or be able to host the presence of God that He wants. **1 Corinthians 12:11-31, Ephesians 2:19-22**

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT

### **1. Natural aptitudes, strengths, and abilities.**

We all have natural abilities that we've learned from those around us regardless of our Christian faith. Many times, our natural abilities and strengths are redeemed by the Lord to become spiritual gifts.

### **2. Character traits.**

We are all called to have character and our gifts should produce the nature (or character) of Jesus Christ in each of us. A person should not say he has the “gift of peace” when we are all encouraged to develop that characteristic. Spiritual gifts offer opportunities for us to exemplify the character of Christ.



### **3. Titles or positions.**

Spiritual gifts often lead to titles or positions, but a person may have the gift without the role or the role without the gift. Regardless, we should serve whenever we are given the opportunity. Working in the area of your gifting will allow you to “be” the person that God has called you to be rather than just “doing” good things.

### **4. Self-promoting.**

Spiritual gifts are endowments given by God to His people for accomplishing His purpose on the earth. Spiritual gifts are given for the glory of God.

**1 Corinthians 14:1**

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE:**

A God-given unique capacity imparted to each believer for the purpose of releasing a Holy Spirit empowered ministry via that believer.

## **HOW DO I RECEIVE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?**

**1. Accept Jesus Christ as Lord of your life. Romans 10:9-13; Acts 2:38-39**

**2. Believe God has gifts He wants to give to you. James 1:5-7, 17**

**3. Ask for the Lord to give you spiritual gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:31, Luke 11:9-13**

**4. Apply yourself to learning about spiritual gifts. 1 Timothy 4:14-15; 2 Timothy 1:14**



## **SPIRITUAL GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES**

The following contains definitions of the Spiritual gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the Gifts Questionnaire.

### **1. ADMINISTRATION**

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. **Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28**

### **2. APOSTLESHIP**

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training. **Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:11-14; Galatians 2:7-8**

### **3. CRAFTSMANSHIP**

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. **Exodus 30:22; Exodus 31:3-5; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3**

### **4. DISCERNMENT**

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations. **Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 John 4:1-6; 1 Corinthians 12:10**

### **5. EVANGELISM**

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian. **Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14**



## **6. EXHORTATION**

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. **Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 14:21-22**

## **7. FAITH**

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. **Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; Hebrews 11; 1 Corinthians 12:9**

## **8. GIVING**

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth. **Mark 12:41-44; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-8; Romans 12:8 NIV**

## **9. HEALING**

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. **Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28**

## **10. HELPS**

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. **Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Romans 16:1-2**

## **11. HOSPITALITY**

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. **Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9**



## **12. INTERCESSION**

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results. **Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16**

## **13. KNOWLEDGE**

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring clarity to situations and circumstances often accompanied by a word from God. **Acts 5:1-11; Colossians 2:2-3; 1 Corinthians 12:8**

## **14. LEADERSHIP**

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea. **1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17; Romans 12:8**

## **15. MERCY**

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way. **Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:14**

## **16. MIRACLES**

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction. **Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28; Romans 15:18-19**

## **17. MISSIONARY**

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside of your culture and nationality, while in most cases living in that culture or nation. **Acts 8:4, 13:2-3, 22:21; Romans 10:14-15 NIV**



## **18. MUSIC / WORSHIP**

The gift of music/worship is the divine strength or ability to sing, dance, or play an instrument primarily for the purpose of helping others worship God. **Deuteronomy 31:22; 1 Samuel 16:16; 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12; Psalm 150; 1 Chronicles 16:41-42 NIV**

## **19. PASTOR / SHEPHERD**

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues. **John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3**

## **20. PROPHECY**

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God's plan. **Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Thessalonians 1:5; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4 NIV**

## **21. SERVICE**

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. **Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14; Galatians 6:10**

## **22. TEACHING**

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. **Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14; James 3:1**

## **23. TONGUES (and Interpretation)**

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. **Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14**



## **24. WISDOM**

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. **Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8**

### **PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.” Hebrews 12:1-2*

#### **1. Investigate your feelings.**

- a. Your gift may tie in directly with your temperament and personality. The same God who gives spiritual gifts also made up our total being.
- b. Know your potential strengths and weaknesses.

#### **2. Identify the opportunities.**

- a. Look for needs.
- b. Based upon your gifting find out where you can be useful.
- c. Do it.

#### **3. Evaluate your results.**

- a. Your spiritual gift should work.
- b. You should enjoy your spiritual gift.

#### **4. Commit to using your gift, in submission to leadership, to help build up the body of Christ.**