

# Spiritual Gifts

## Lesson 14

### Memorize (Select One) –

- ✓ I Corinthians 12:7 - But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- ✓ I Peter 4:10 - As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Spiritual gifts are given by God to believers to equip them for ministry within the body of Christ, the church. They are called spiritual gifts because they are sovereignly distributed by the Holy Spirit and exercised in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are gifts, from the Greek term *charis* which means “grace”, because they are neither earned or deserved.

- ◆ Who possesses spiritual giftedness (I Pet. 4:10)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Who is the source of spiritual gifts (I Cor. 12:11)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ What is the purpose of spiritual gifts (I Cor. 12:7; 14:12)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ In I Cor. 12:4-6, what fact about spiritual gifts is repeated three times?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## I. Spiritual Gifts Referred to in the Scriptures

### A. List the gifts from the following passages.

1 Corinthians 12:8-10:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

I Corinthians 12:28:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Romans 12:6-8:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## II. Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual gifts are classified into two categories: temporary (special) and permanent.

### **TEMPORARY GIFTS**

***Temporary gifts were given by the Holy Spirit for confirming the testimony of the Apostles and prophets. They were prevalent in the early church, but ceased to be evident as the church was established.***

#### ◆ **Miracles**

The ability to do “wonders” and “signs”. Christ performed many miracles as recorded in Scripture. Paul used this gift to affirm his apostleship as described in 2 Cor. 12:12.

#### ◆ **Healing**

Peter had this gift (see Acts 3:6-8; 5:15-16), which affirmed his message and helped establish the foundation for the church.

#### ◆ **Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues**

Manifested by the speaking of a language unknown to the speaker (see Acts 2:1-11). This gift had to be accompanied by the gift of interpretation (I Corinthians 14:27-28).

**PERMANENT GIFTS**

***Gifts given by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the church. These were prevalent in the early church and still are in the church today.***

◆ **Prophecy**

Preaching or “to tell forth or declare the Scripture.” Prophecy does not necessarily mean to foretell the future.

◆ **Teaching**

The ability to teach the Word of God and bless the hearers with the understanding of the Scriptures that the Author intended.

◆ **Faith**

A consistent, enabling faith that truly believes God in the face of overwhelming obstacles and human impossibilities, and for great things. John MacArthur calls this the “gift of prayer” because the gift is primarily expressed toward God through prayer.

◆ **Wisdom**

The ability to apply wisdom, gained from spiritual insight, to believers; knowing what is right and what is wrong; applied knowledge.

◆ **Knowledge**

An understanding of the facts of Scripture. From the human perspective, it is scholarship or the ability to know the truths of Scripture in a way that is both broad and deep.

◆ **Discernment**

The ability to tell which things are from the Spirit and which are not; distinguishes truth from error. This gift serves as protection for the church.

◆ **Mercy**

The ability to show deep compassion to those who have spiritual, physical, or emotional needs.

◆ **Exhortation**

The ability to encourage and motivate. A person with this gift can come alongside another to comfort him with love, to encourage him to a deeper spiritual commitment and growth, or to exhort him to action. This is the gift that qualifies people to exercise a counseling ministry in the body.

◆ **Giving**

This gift is a direct reference to the material ministry of giving: food, clothes, money, houses, etc. in response to the needs of the church.

◆ **Administration/Leadership**

The ability to oversee the flock. This may be seen in pastors and elders; also those in leadership of missionary societies, youth work, evangelistic associations, etc.

◆ **Helps**

Aiding in a time of need, or bearing one another's burdens, as the situation arises.

◆ **Service**

Working for the body of Christ in areas of physical ministries such as serving food, maintenance, etc.

### III. Exercise of Spiritual Gifts

- A.** Read I Cor. 13:1-7 and state how gifts can be void of a blessing and benefit to others.

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- B.** What attitude must be avoided in the exercise of your gift (I Cor. 12:25a)?

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- C.** Those exercising their gift to be seen or recognized by others will be reflecting a \_\_\_\_\_ heart (James 4:6).

***When Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the scribes and pharisees he revealed their sinful self-centered heart by declaring, “They do all their deeds to be noticed by men.” (Matthew 23:5a)***

- D.** Spiritual gifts are to accomplish what results in the Body of Christ (Eph. 4:12b & 16b)?
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- E.** In addition to the good of others, spiritual gifts are to be exercised for the \_\_\_\_\_ (I Cor. 10:31).

#### **IV. Discovering Your Spiritual Gift(s)**

The Bible does not explicitly explain how to determine your spiritual gift(s). An obedient Christian will serve and build up others whenever and however he finds opportunity. As you do so, you will discover you have been graced with particular ability to serve in some ways better than others. Likewise, others will be able to give you counsel and direction as you prayerfully consider your giftedness. In the church, make yourself available to leadership for ministry and seek their counsel in ways you can grow and serve. Through the sanctification that comes by growth in the Word and service to others your spiritual giftedness will surface and develop.