

AN OVERVIEW OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS (Selected Scriptures)

Please look in your booklets at 1 Corinthians 12.

A series on the Holy Spirit would not be complete without a mini-series on the topic of spiritual gifts. (When each of us get saved...)

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:

[Paul wants God's people well-informed about spiritual gifts.]

² You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led.

[When the Corinthians were unsaved and worshiping idols, they were easily deceived.]

³ Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.

[Since Paul does not want the Corinthians to be deceived again, he tells them that the Holy Spirit is not behind anything that disparages or attacks Jesus, but is behind what glorifies Him.]

⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

Outline for Lesson One:

- I. The Definition of Spiritual Gifts
- II. The Key Passages Relating to Spiritual Gifts
- III. The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts

I. The Definition of Spiritual Gifts:

- A. John Walvoord, former President of Dallas Theological Seminary:

“Spiritual gifts are divinely given capacities to perform useful functions for God, especially in the area of spiritual service.”

B. The NASB Topical Index:

“Spiritual gifts are the particular **endowments** given by the Spirit to all believers that enable them to serve others for the building up of the church”

II. **The Key Passages Relating to Spiritual Gifts:**

A. 1 Corinthians **12-14**

12:7---...the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one **for the profit of all...**

B. Romans **12:6-8a**

12:6--- Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, **let us use them...**

C. 1 Peter **4:10-11**

4:10---As each one has received a gift, **minister it to one another,** as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

“a gift”---If a believer cannot be both a hand **and** a foot or an eye **and** an ear (1 Cor 12:15-17), this implies that a believer cannot have more than one spiritual gift.

D. Ephesians **4:7-16**

4:16---...the whole body, joined and knit together **by what every joint supplies,** according to the effective working **by which every part does its share,** causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

III. **The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts:**

A. **To **benefit** the entire body of Christ**

*1 Corinthians 12:4-7 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries [areas of service], but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities [results], but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit [spiritual gifts] is given to each one **for the profit of all...***

B. **To **equip** God’s people to serve**

*Ephesians 4:11-12a And He Himself [Jesus] gave some [i.e., gifted people] to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² **for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry...***

Note: Christ gives the church gifted **people** (to equip believers to serve), the Holy Spirit gives each believer a **spiritual gift** (to cause growth and the edifying of believers through love).

C. To edify God's people

Ephesians 4:15-16 ...but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

1 Corinthians 14:3 ...he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.

D. To bring unity in the body concerning the truths of the New Testament

Ephesians 4:13a ...till we all come to the unity of the faith...

E. To help God's people know Jesus better

Ephesians 4:13b ... and of the knowledge of the Son of God,

F. To bring God's people to maturity

Ephesians 4:13c ...to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Ephesians 4:14-15 ...that we should no longer be children ...but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—

G. To protect God's people from false teaching

Ephesians 4:14 ...that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

H. To glorify God

*1 Peter 4:10-11 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, **that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.***

I. To convict the hearts of the unbelieving

*1 Corinthians 14:21-22 In the law it is written: "With men of other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; and yet, for all that, they will not hear Me," says the Lord. ²² **Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.***

The gift of languages (tongues) revolved around the proclamation of the power and glory of God:

Acts 2:11we hear them speaking in our own tongues *the wonderful works of God.*

J. To validate the message of the apostles

Hebrews 2:3-4how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, ⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

Q & A

1 Corinthians 12:4-10, 28	Romans 12:6-8a	1 Peter 4:10-11	Ephesians 4:7-16
<p>⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit <i>of all</i>:</p>	<p>⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, <i>let us use them</i>:</p>	<p>¹⁰ As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, <i>let him speak</i> as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, <i>let him do it</i> as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p>⁷ But to each one of us grace [a spiritual gift] was given according to the measure of Christ's gift [see v.11]. ⁸ Therefore He says: "<i>When He [Jesus] ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And [Jesus] gave gifts to men.</i>"</p> <p>A Parenthesis (vv 9-10)</p> <p>⁹ (Now this, "<i>He ascended</i>"— what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of [namely] the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)</p> <p>¹¹ And He Himself gave some <i>to be</i></p>

			<p>apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,</p> <p>¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—¹⁶ from whom the whole body,</p>
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			joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,			
to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,			
⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit,			
to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,			

¹⁰ to another the working of miracles,			
to another prophecy,	^{6b} if prophecy, <i>let us prophesy</i> in proportion to our faith;		
to another discerning of spirits,			
to another <i>different</i> kinds of tongues,			
to another the interpretation of tongues.			
1 Corinthians 12:28 ----- ²⁸ And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles,			
^{28b} second prophets,			

28c third teachers,	7b he who teaches, in teaching;		
28d after that miracles,			
28e then gifts of healings,			
28f helps,			
28g administrations,			
28h varieties of tongues.			
	7a or ministry, <i>let us use it in our ministering;</i>		
	8 he who exhorts, in exhortation;		