

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Introduction

Every born again believer has at least one spiritual gift which was given at the moment of salvation for the glorification of God and the edification of the Body of Christ—the Church (*I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 4:7; I Peter 4:10*).

- I. **The Difference Between Spiritual Gifts and Talents:**
 - A. Talents are natural abilities given to us by God at our physical birth.
 - B. Spiritual gifts are supernatural abilities given to us by God at our spiritual birth.
- II. **How to Discover Your Spiritual Gift or Gifts:**
 - A. Education or Information—Be informed; learn about spiritual gifts (*I Cor. 12:1-28; Rom. 12:3-8; Eph. 4:11; I Peter 4:9-11*).
 - B. Motivation—What do you desire to do?
 - C. Observation—What do you do that blesses or edifies others?
 - D. Confirmation—What do others tell you that you do that blesses or edifies them?
- III. **The Gift of Prophecy (*Romans 12:6; I Cor. 12:10*).**
 - A. The Meaning—Prophecy is a speaking gift that enables the speaker to speak to people words of edification, encouragement, and comfort (*I Cor. 14:3*).
 - B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised through preaching, teaching, praising (as a worship leader), testifying and so on.
- IV. **The Gift of Ministry or Service or Helps (*Romans 12:7; I Cor. 12:28*).**
 - A. The Meaning—The supernatural ability to assist, support, help, serve, or minister to others so that they may more effectively use their gift or gifts to edify the Body of Christ as in *Acts 6:1-7*.
 - B. The Ministering—Some of the ministry areas for the exercising of this gift are the Nursery, Bus Ministry, Tape Ministry, Parking Attendant, Ushers, Kitchen Crew, Greeter, Hospital Visitation, shut-in Visitation, Deacons, and so on.
- V. **The Gift of Teaching (*Romans 12:7*).**
 - A. The Meaning—Teaching is the supernatural ability to prepare, to explain, and to apply the Word of God to Current life situation.
 - B. The Ministering—The gift of teaching may be exercised in the home, Sunday School, small groups, one to one, and so on.
- VI. **The Gift of Exhortation or Encouragement (*Romans 12:8*).**
 - A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to come along side someone to encourage, comfort, counsel, or strengthen them.
 - B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised anywhere that a member of the Body of Christ is in need of exhortation.
- VII. **The Gift of Giving (*Romans 12:8*).**
 - A. The Meaning—Gift of giving is the supernatural ability to give cheerfully and unconditionally to the work of the Lord and to meet the needs of others.
 - B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised in the local church to which one is a member and where there is a need in the Body of Christ.
- VIII. **The Gift of Ruling or Leadership or Administration or Governments (*Romans 12:8; I Cor. 12:28*).**
 - A. The Meaning—The gift of ruling or leadership or administration or governments is the supernatural ability to see visions, set goals, and motivate people to work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God.

- B. The Ministering—Gift can be exercised in the home and in the local church (*I Tim. 3:4, 12; 5:17*).
- IX. The Gift of Showing Mercy (*Romans 12:8*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to feel compassion for others and to seek to remove their suffering.
- B. The Ministering—This gift may be exercised through Shut-in, Visitation, Hospital Visitation, Deacon, Nursery Work and so on.
- X. The Gift of the Word of Wisdom (*I Cor. 12:8*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to say and do the right thing at the right time or the practical application of knowledge to a particular situation.
- B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised as a deacon, Committee member, Pre-Marital Counselor, Coordinator of a ministry and so on.
- XI. The Gifts of the Word of Knowledge (*I Cor. 12:8*).**
- A. The Meaning—Knowledge or facts revealed supernaturally to the believer also the investigation, accumulation clarification or interpretation of facts for the edification of the Body of Christ.
- B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised in carrying out the responsibilities as a counselor, teacher, deacon, pastor, committee member, and so on.
- XII. The Gift of Faith (*I Cor. 12:9*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to believe God for the extraordinary or seemingly impossible.
- B. The Ministering—This gift may be exercised by those carrying out their responsibilities as a leader in the body of Christ, such as pastor, deacon, chairperson, ministry coordinator, and so on.
- XIII. The Gift of Discerning of Spirits (*I Cor. 12:10*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to determine what is from the Holy Spirit, human spirit, and demonic spirit or what is from God, the flesh, and Satan.
- B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised by all who are in leadership positions.
- XIV. The Gift of Hospitality (*I Peter 4:9-10*).**
- A. The Meaning—The supernatural ability to open one's heart and one's home to welcome strangers in the body of Christ or to provide temporary food and lodging for those in need in the body of Christ without looking for anything in return.
- B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised in ministry areas that brings one in contact with strangers, such as ushering, parking attendant, Foreign Exchange Student Host, and so on.
- XV. The Gift of Evangelism (*Eph. 4:11*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to communicate the Gospel message in such a way that the lost are won to Jesus Christ.
- B. The Ministering—Gift may be exercised anywhere that one comes in contact with lost souls.
- XVI. The Gift of Celibacy (*I Cor. 7:7-9*).**
- A. The Meaning—Supernatural ability to be single and satisfied. This gift of celibacy may be given at the moment of salvation or at the time of the loss of one's spouse.
- B. The Ministering—Gift enables one to serve God without certain distractions (*I Cor. 7:32-35*) and may be exercised in any ministry to which one is called.

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