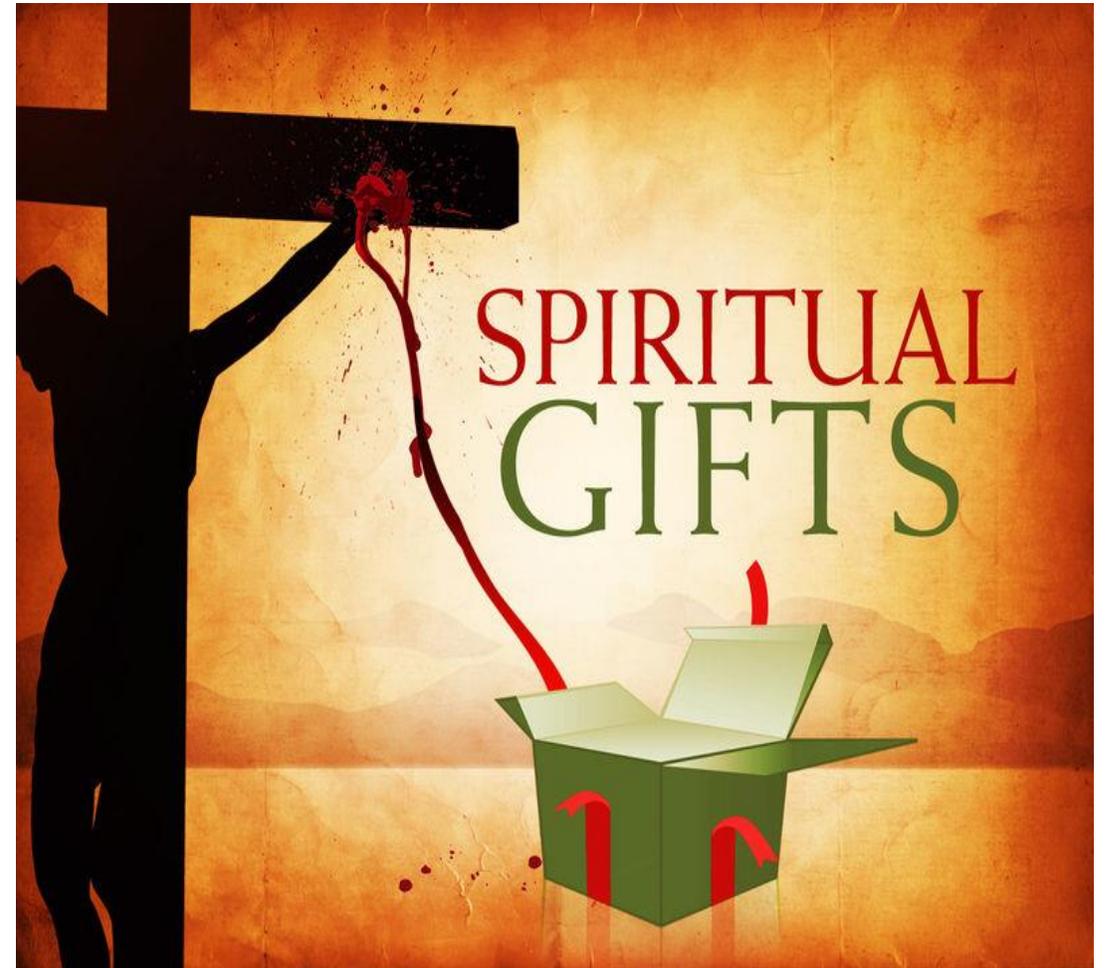


*What every Christian Ought To Know.*

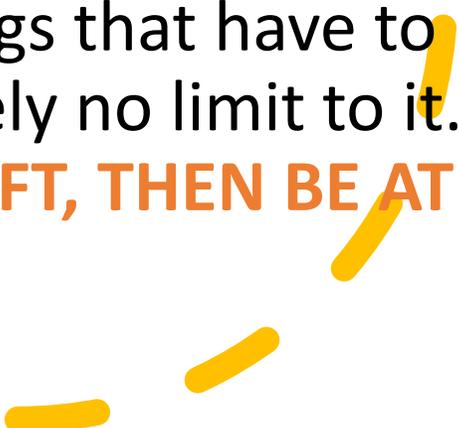
## **#10 HOW TO DISCOVER HIS SPIRITUAL GIFT.**

- Notice (Rom. 12:6-8) *“Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”*



# THE SERVING GIFTS

- SECOND GIFT IS THE GIFT OF **SERVING**.
- Paul says in verse in (Rom. 12:7), *"if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching."* **MINISTRY**, or literally, *diakonia*, the gift of the deacon the serving gift. If you have the gift of serving, **THEN SERVE**.
- It's a practical service. It's the same as the gift of **HELPS** in (1 Cor. 12:28.) *"And God has appointed in the church, first APOSTLES, second PROPHETS, third TEACHERS, then MIRACLES, then gifts of HEALINGS, HELPS, ADMINISTRATIONS, various kinds of TONGUES."*
- It's the same word used in (Acts 20:35), *"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must HELP the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*

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- **“HELPS”** means. **“SUPPORT,”** It's a support gift, a gift of practical help, a gift of **SERVING**. It could come, in a million ways, unique as each individual.
  - In **(Acts 6:2)**, the apostles said, ***“It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.”*** Look, we need to give ourselves to serving the Word and praying, so let's get some people who can serve tables. **THE CHURCH IS DEPENDENT ON THE HELPERS.** There are myriad of support things that have to be done in the ministry. Absolutely no limit to it. **IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF A GIFT, THEN BE AT IT.**
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- **SERVING**, means to **“WAIT ON A TABLE.”** It's used, for example, when Jesus raised Peter's wife's mother and it says she got up and served them. She ***diakonia'd*** them, she deaconed them. That's what the word means. It means to serve them something to eat.
- It's used several places in the N.T. meaning to serve, to provide a meal, very, very menial but very important service. It came then to be a very general term for any kind of spiritual service. And throughout the N.T. you find that the word is used over and over again. It's a very common word.
- There is nearly **75 different** times when one form of that word or another is used in the New Testament, serving, all kinds of dimensions to it. Any kind of supporting service, it could be the ***official service*** of someone designated as a deacon, or it could be the ***unofficial service*** of someone just stepping into a gap to serve.

- Remember, don't get caught up thinking that one gift is better than the other. You see, the issue isn't what you are; the issue is what you do with what you are. Your eternal **"COMMENDATION"** is not going to be whether or not you had the same effect that **Billy Graham** did on the world. The issue in your eternal reward is going to be did you **maximize the gift** you had because God designed you the way He designed you. Did you use the gift that God gave you? That's the issue, to the fullest.
- In a sense, our judgment is relative. Not relative to each other but relative to what God enabled us to do and whether or not we did it.
- Remember **(Rom. 12,)** ***"Present yourself a living sacrifice."*** Abandon yourself to a renewed mind and a renewed will, rightly evaluate your own attitude. Are you humbly thankful for the gift you have, and do you understand it not too highly and not too lowly? Do you understand how essential it is to the body of Christ, the body of Christ can't function without it? Will you, do it? If it's preaching, will you preach? If it's serving, will you please serve? If it's teaching, will you please teach?

- **MINISTRY**-(Rom. 12:7)

This is just another word for **“SERVICE.”** This person meets spiritual needs in a practical way. The everyday things that make the church function, and flow. Some people go as far as to differentiate **“Service,”** and **“Helps.”** **Helps** tend to be more specific such as an Associate Pastor, is one who comes along side of the Pastor using their talents to aid (**HELP**) the Pastor in serving the body.

**Service,** has a more general role of **“Doing whatever needs to be done.”**

**Opportunities:** Deacon, Ushers, Nursery worker, Meal organizer, Event organizer, I.T. tech, audio/visual tech, Bus ministry, flower/decoration, lawn care, building maintenance, Musicians. Custodian.

- **GIVING.**-(Rom. 12:8)

Even though we are **ALL** commanded to give, these people have the ability to accumulate and disperse assets so that the work of God may be carried on. They make good decisions to meet immediate needs.

**Opportunities:** Benevolence Comm., Personal comm., Finance Comm., Financial advisor, Tax accountant.

- **FAITH.**-(1 Cor. 12:9)

When Paul mentions the word **“FAITH”** in this context, he’s not referring to **“Saving faith,”** or **“Serving faith”** that is common to all Christians. After all (Rom. 12:3) is clear **“For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.”**

- This type of faith is referring to **“SUPERABUNDANT FAITH,”** the **“GIFT”** of **FAITH.** Notice (1 Cor. 13:2) **“...and if I have ALL FAITH, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.”** As Adrian Rodgers said: **“If God wants you to remove mountains, he’ll give you mountain-moving faith.”**

- I know a few people with this kind of faith, and I’d like to think I have it, but to compare my faith with Sister **Charlotte Harvey’s** faith, is humbling at best. I love to be around folks with this kind of faith. They believe God can do anything, anytime, or anywhere, **ALL THE TIME!** It’s an **EXTRAORDINARY CONFIDENCE IN THE POWER OF GOD.**

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- **Opportunities**: Benevolence Comm., Finance Comm., Intercessory of prayer ministry, basically every ministry needs someone with this gift.
  - **MERCY**-(Rom. 12:8)
    - The person with this gift can identify with people and help to alleviate the pain in those who are hurting. This person can feel a genuine empathy and compassion for people in general. **(the saint and sinner.)**
  - **Opportunities**: Hopefully your Pastor, Benevolence (giving) comm., Counseling, Crises center, Teen Challenge, Hospital visitation. Any ministry that needs acts of mercy.
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