

Introduction to Spiritual Gifts - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

1. What aspects of the Spiritual Gifts make them intriguing, confusing, misapplied, and sometimes unsettling areas of scripture?
2. On a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being not informed and 10 being an expert, how would you rate your knowledge of the spiritual gifts and their application? Why did you give yourself the score that you did?
3. Read Ephesians 3:20-21, 1 Peter 1:3, and Ephesians 4:11-12. Where do the spiritual gifts come from, and what is their purpose?
4. The definition we will use for spiritual gifts is: "Spiritual gifts are capacities or abilities imparted to disciples of Christ by the Holy Spirit to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity, in order to serve believers and non-believers, to the glory of God." Discuss this definition.
5. In his book, "What are Spiritual Gifts? Rethinking the Conventional View," Kenneth Berding says, "Don't ask, 'How can I discover the special abilities that The Spirit has given me,' but rather, 'Lord, where do you want me to serve?'" How do spiritual gifts equip us to serve?
6. Read Romans 12:3-8. Can you see how the gift of faith here is assigned as a role to fulfill? How does thinking about the spiritual gifts as a role to fulfill and not just a special ability to hoard help us in exercising the gift(s) given to us?
7. The spiritual gifts are not personality traits; they are not your identity, and they should always point people to the gift giver. How do we do this practically?