

08/14/22 Message

Part of Gifted - Expect to be Empowered

August 11, 2022

Message: Many, Many Gifts

Series: Gifted: Expect to be Empowered

This is our fourth message in the series Gifted: Expect to be Empowered!

The goal of this series is to bring you closer to the Holy Spirit by understanding who He is and what He can do for you. Hopefully you will understand the different spiritual gifts and by the end, be able to identify and employ your giftedness within the church.

Review

- Power comes from God's HOLY SPIRIT
- We believe in ONE God (we are a monotheistic religion)
 - made up of THREE persons
- We call it the HOLY TRINITY
 - God the Father
 - God the Son (Jesus)
 - God the Holy Spirit (God's Holy Spirit)
- Jesus PROMISED to give us the Holy Spirit
 - Jesus' promise is fulfilled at Pentecost
- The Holy Spirit gives LIFE
- The power of the Holy Spirit allows us to restrain EVIL and do GOOD

God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible. What a pity that we plan only the things we can do by ourselves.

—A.W. Tozer

- Supernatural power is given to us through SPIRITUAL GIFTS
- Working definition of Spiritual Gifts
 - When the Holy Spirit manifests His presence and imparts His power through believers to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity so they will faithfully and effectively fulfill tasks of ministry to build up the body of Christ.

Know this - in every area of your life where Satan is telling you, "You can't!" God is telling you, "All things are possible!"

—Pastor Chad

Introduction

Once we come to faith in Christ, we are promised to receive at least one (most likely more than one) spiritual gift. There is no connection between spiritual gifts and personality.

- Spiritual gifts are CONCRETE manifestations of the Spirit through us!
 - They are not who we are, but rather what we do in the power of the Spirit for the good of others.

It's not who I am - it's what I can do through Him!

—Pastor Chad

Note: The exact number of spiritual gifts is debatable and truthfully unlimited.

Categories of Spiritual Gifts

Note: Spiritual gifts are grouped into various categories based on the interpretation of the person. These three are widely used and clearly separates giftedness based on characteristics of the gifts.

- Types of spiritual gifts
 - MOTIVATIONAL gifts
 - MANIFESTATION gifts
 - MINISTRY gifts

Motivational Gifts

Motivational gifts are the driving force that causes you to do the things you do – the way you do them. It's how God works in you to shape your perspective on life and motivate your words and actions.

Romans 12:6-8 (NLT)

6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you.

7 If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well.

8 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

From this, we get the spiritual gifts of prophesy, serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, leadership, and mercy.

1 Peter 4:10-11 (NLT)

10 God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

11 Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

Peter spoke of two gifts – teaching and serving.

Manifestation Gifts

Manifestation gifts are supernatural demonstrations of the Holy Spirit's presence and power. These gifts are manifested for the benefit of others (saved and unsaved) to bring God glory.

1 Corinthians 12:8-11 (NLT)

8 To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge.

9 The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else

the one Spirit gives the gift of healing.

10 He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said.

11 It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

Manifestation gifts include wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, and interpretation of tongues.

Ministry Gifts

A ministry gift is how God works with what you do to serve and meet the needs of others. It's the tools God uses to build up the church. These gifts are often confirmed by ordination as Paul describes in 1 Timothy 4:14.

Often times these gifts are called vocational gifts because they're associated with vocational ministry. Those who receive ministry gifts are called by God to answer His calling and commit to fulfilling the call on their life. It impacts them, it impacts their family, it literally changes their life!

—Pastor Chad

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT)

11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.

The recipient of ministry gifts is the church. Ministers are responsible to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church.

Don't get me wrong - all believers should contribute to the work of ministry. But vocational ministers do not have a specific calling to "do more" or "work harder" or "do it because it's their job." Biblically speaking, the calling involves equipping God's people - equipping you - to do

His work and together - build up the church.

—Pastor Chad

Accountability of ministers:

Hebrews 13:17 (NLT)

Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.

Jesus' brother, James, said this...

James 3:1 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly.

The Greek word translated teachers is specifically referring to those with what's called apostolic teachers, those appointed by God to equip and build up the church.

Summary

Motivational, manifestation, and ministry gifts - I hope you're ready to learn more about these gifts so when I ask you at the end of this series to go through a process to identify your giftedness - you'll know exactly what God has gifted you to do for Him.