

#3, Gifting: I Get

1 Cor. 12:1-7, Romans 12:4-6, Eph. 4:11-13

You're joining us in a series entitled the *People of God*. It's a mini-series built around what makes us unique. This weekend marks a turning point in our series. The first two weekends in our series were *foundational for* our lives (our identity/ our freedom) but this weekend, will be *functional in* our lives. This weekend we're talking about Spiritual Gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:1

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed...

• Paul is writing to exhort us to know our gifts and put them into action!

- o I believe that Spiritual Gifts infuse our lives with spiritual power.
- o It is God's dream for His people to be <u>equipped and energized</u> in their work for Him!

• The term, "Spiritual Gifts", comes from two Greek words

- Charismata (Gifts)
- Pneuma/ or Pneumatika (Spirit)

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

#1) Spiritual Gifts come from the Spirit.

- o The Holy Spirit chooses to give the gifts of His choosing!
- God knows what people need, what our future holds and He gives us specific gifts that we'll need.
 - A Spiritual Gift is something new and different from a natural talent!

#2) Spiritual Gifts come in a variety of forms.

- o There are 4 key places in scripture where we learn about Spiritual Gifts.
- Three of them were written by Paul:
 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4 & 1 Peter 4

You might not think that you have a gift - but you do!

#3) Every believer has Spiritual Gifts!

• We all have gifts and they are unique to us!

#4) Spiritual Gifts bring spiritual energy to our lives.

- o The word "Activities" is translated "energeo"
- o Energeo is the Greek word that gives us the english word, **ENERGY!**

The People of God live with the "the energy of God!"

• <u>I am convinced that when we encounter or taste of the ENERGEO of God, we will want to spend the rest of our lives tasting and pursuing more!</u>

- o You will never forget the moment when God uses you to touch another person's life!
 - That is the power and potential of Spiritual Gifts.

Nothing compares to the thrill of knowing that you're an instrument in the hands of God!

1 Corinthians 12:7 & Romans 12:4-6

- It's supernatural God is using you! God is energizing you!
 - o I want to inspire you to pursue your gifts for the common good.
 - I want to inspire you to fulfill your calling for the good of our community.

• Spiritual power was never reserved for "paid professionals"

- Spiritual power is given to all of God's people!
 - Let's value our own "charismata" and ministry/task currently before us.

Ephesians 4:7,11-13 (4 Examples)

If your heart-rate increases as I outline these, press into that...

It is perhaps the Holy Spirit working in your life and highlighting an area of your gifting!

#1) The Spiritual Gift of Apostleship.

The gift of Apostleship is essentially the gift to be a <u>pioneer</u> and <u>start</u> a new work of God! If you have this gift, you wake up every day with an idea to start something amazing for God!!

#2) The Spiritual Gift of Administration (or Helps).

This spiritually gifted person wants to <u>serve</u> and put <u>action</u> to the dreams of pioneers. This person wants to support and create structures for life and ministry to happen.

#3) The Spiritual Gift of Leadership.

Leaders find it easy to <u>inspire</u> and <u>mobilize</u> people to do something great for God. Leaders build teams, inspire and motivate towards action.

#4) The Spiritual Gift of Teaching.

You might not realize this but you read the Bible differently than most people. You gain <u>insights</u> because God supernaturally highlights a <u>text</u> in ways that others do not gain.

God wants you to experience the energy of your spiritual gifts!!

If you're a leader, lead! If you're a teacher, teach! If you're a helper, help! If you're a pioneer, start something!

What could happen in our town if we took seriously the mandate to exercise our spiritual gifts? The primary purpose of the gifts has always been to equip the people of God to be on mission! This is God's Plan A for how the church is to function. (And there is no Plan B.)

Q: Want to learn your Spiritual Gifts?

>> Take the "S.H.A.P.E." assessment this week...

Available at the Information Desk or online at www.mountainsprings.org / (Get Connected/ Serving Opportunities)

Email Corinne Mattingly (CMattingly@mountainsprings.org) to discuss your results.