

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT (30F3)

Topical

Now that we have studied most of the gifts let's take some time to find out what gifts we have. Knowledge is useless without application.

Three step process to get you started:

EDUCATION (How to understand the gifts) // INVESTIGATION (How to find your gifts) // APPLICATION (How to activate your gifts)

I. EDUCATION – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE GIFTS

1. There are gifts of the Spirit...

i. [1 Corinthians 12:1](#) *Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed.*

ii. Gift lists: 1 Cor 12, Rom 12, Eph 4, 1 Pet 4.

2. All Christians are gifted...

i. [1 Corinthians 12:7](#) *A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.*

ii. [1 Peter 4:10](#) *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace*

3. All gifted Christians are unique...

i. [Romans 12:4](#) *For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,*

ii. [1 Corinthians 12:4–6](#) *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties*

of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

4. All Christians are uniquely gifted for two reasons: Glorification and edification.

- i. John 16:14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*
- ii. 1 Corinthians 14:12 Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.*

II. INVESTIGATION - HOW TO FIND YOUR G.I.F.T.S.

1. Give - Give yourself to God.

- i. Romans 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*
- ii. "Being filled with the Spirit is simply this - having my whole nature yielded to His power. When the whole soul is yielded to the Holy Spirit, God Himself will fill it." — Andrew Murray, Absolute Surrender*

2. Identify - Identify your desires for Christian service and ministry.

- i. What do you want to do? What do you enjoy doing?*
- ii. Psalms 37:4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.*
- iii. Get involved in a variety of things and you will be able to find the one that brings you joy and purpose.*

- iv. “If you were to ask me what I thought your natural abilities were, the first thing I would do is to ask what you have tried. Have you ever tried to play baseball, to water ski, to bowl, to sew? If you haven’t you will never know. You may study sewing, baseball, bowling or whatever, but you will never know if you are good at it until you have made a genuine effort to do it.” – Bob Deffinbaugh

3. Follow - Follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

- i. Discovering your gifts is more than just applying certain tests. It is a living growing relationship with God!
- ii. *John 14:16–17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*
- iii. *Romans 8:14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.*

4. Talk - Talk to other Christians.

- i. Many times others can see gifts in us that we didn’t realize ourselves. Discipleship and pastoral relationships are key.
- ii. *2 Timothy 4:11 Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.*

iii. 1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you.

5. See - See the effects of your gifts.

i. Do your gifts produce results/fruit?

ii. John 15:16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide...

iii. The mechanic who felt called to be a pastor – you may feel called to preach but do others feel called to listen to you?

III. APPLICATION - HOW TO RECEIVE YOUR GIFTS

1. Have a desire

i. 1 Corinthians 12:31, 14:1 But earnestly desire the best gifts...Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

2. Prayer

i. Luke 11:13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

3. Be in community

i. Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.

- ii. 2 Timothy 1:6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
- iii. 1 Corinthians 12:14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

Spiritual gifts tests:

<https://spiritualgiftstest.com/>

<https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/>

Growth Group Discussion Questions

- There are some Christians who do not believe in all the spiritual gifts are for the Church today. How different would our Church be practically if we didn't believe or use the gifts?
- We have a long way to go when it comes to all members discovering and using their gifts. It's a growth process. What does a Church look like that is operating in the gifts of the Spirit 100%? In other words, what's the goal for us as a Church?
- In discovering your gifts we used the acrostic "GIFTS". Discuss some ways these can be practically applied. Which one of these do you find most helpful and why? (**Give** - Give

yourself to God. **Identify** - Identify your desires for Christian service and ministry. **Follow** - Follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit. **Talk** - Talk to other Christians. **See** - See the effects of your gifts.

- Have a few people share how they discovered their spiritual gifts. This isn't an exact science, but personal testimony may be helpful for others in the group to find their gifts.
- Regarding Spiritual gifts, why do you think it is so important to be part of a local Church fellowship?