



Sermon Series: Holy Habits Week 3

Sermon Title: Use Your Gift!

Date: 2/11/2024

1 Corinthians 12:1-7

We are going to explore the Spiritual Gifts God gives. We will see how the Holy Spirit has gifted believers in Jesus and how, through those gifts, He builds up the Entire church family through YOU!

Paul wrote to a group of Jesus' followers in the Greek city of Corinth. The Jesus followers were a new church family coming together in private homes, worshiping Jesus, and reading this letter from Paul. In verse 3, he informs us that a change has taken place for everyone who believes and proclaims Jesus is Lord. What change? Living in the Holy Spirit.

Big Idea: Share your gifting; you are needed here

Understand the Purpose of the gift.

1 Corinthians 12:7

When you exercise your gift, blessing other people with it, your gift is the visible representation of the Holy Spirit. You are making the Holy Spirit known to other people. God blesses you and, in turn, asks you to bless others.

1 Corinthians 12:11 explains how a Spiritual gift is acquired.

The Holy Spirit is the one who decides who gets which gift. Your spiritual gift is a special gift personally selected for YOU by the Holy Spirit, the day you came to saving faith in Jesus.

Identify your gift

A spiritual gift is a skill, ability, or calling in your life, given by God and exercised by you for the benefit of others in the body of Christ globally – but especially here in your home church.

Beginning in verse 8, we find out what some of the Spiritual Gifts are:

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Other gifts are revealed in

Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11-13.

This does not seem like the list is exhaustive. No one gets them all; none is more important than the other. To start with, the most important activity any of us can do is to identify our gift so that it can be exercised the way God designed it for YOU and Grace Church in all its locations.

How do you discover them:

1. Prayer, purposefully ask God to reveal your gifting
2. Ask people what they have seen you sharing with others since you came to faith in Jesus.
3. A way to quick start your exploration is to participate in a spiritual gift assessment survey.

Exercise your gift

When everyone discovers and exercises their Spiritual Gift, there can be real life and a spectacular explosion of faith in Jesus. Don't be the missing person in this great adventure!

To be part of a healthy church, you need to be a part of making it healthy. Churches begin the dying process when members don't know and exercise their spiritual gifts.

Look to Jesus' words when he told his followers to always be ready for his return. **Luke 12:42-44**

Your whole church family grows spiritually through teachers and leaders, givers, evangelists, and faith-filled people. When you exercise your spiritual gifting, you will find yourself binding up the brokenhearted, ministering to the sick, encouraging the imprisoned, speaking the truth of God's word to the lost, offering mercy to the one feeling cast out, giving to the one who needs some support, and so much more – you are gifted by the Holy Spirit to be there for people.

YOU actively become the manifestation of the Holy Spirit to someone else.

Discussion Questions:

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **What are some reasons people do not use their spiritual gifts?**
- **What do you think God's response is if you don't use the gift He's given you? Can you think of any biblical examples?**
- **Do you ever think about how important YOU are to the life and health of this church? Explain how.**
- **Do you know what your spiritual gift is? Explain**
- **Explain how someone else has blessed your life using their spiritual gift.**