

## **Survey of the Spiritual Gifts**

Learning to Recognize the Gifts in our lives and in the Church

*1 Corinthians 12:8-10*

### **Accountability: Let's hold ourselves accountable!**

- Welcome to the Fall Session of Small Groups at Calvary Chapel Newnan. This term lasts for ten weeks and will take us all right up to the Thanksgiving & Christmas season. We've made a few improvements to the Small Groups Handout starting with a section about accountability. Each week, our groups will take time to reflect on what we learned last week with an opportunity to discuss how we did with last week's application. Did you crush it...did you blow it? Let's take time to talk about how we are being transformed by God, and how we can stir up one another towards greater love and good works (Hebrews 10:24). Come back to this section next week and be prepared for a touch of Godly group accountability.

### **Refresh: Let's take a fresh look at our focal scriptures again!**

- Ephesians 4:11-12
- Romans 12:3-8
- 1 Corinthians 12:7-11
- 1 Corinthians 12:28

### **Exploration: Four questions to guide our group discussion.**

- One big idea this week was that the gifts of the Spirit are distributed by the Spirit as He wills to distribute them. Why does He distribute the gifts this way? What does the Bible say about asking God for spiritual gifts? What would you say to someone who insisted that all believers can prophesy or speak in tongues? Lastly, would you share with the group what you believe your gifts are and why? If you aren't sure yet, this is a good opportunity for the group to minister to you for clarity.
- Recently, a friend posted to social media that he often hears the voice of God the loudest while alone in nature. The Bible is clear though that Spiritual Gifts are intended to be expressed as a blessing to the body of Christ through involvement in the local church, and that regular participation in a local church is God's standard for Christians (Hebrews 10:25). What is the probable impact on the believer and on the church when believers choose to worship at home, or while hiking, or in some other personal but isolated way? Why is it important to be a part of a local Fellowship?

- It is impossible to catch anything with a closed hand. Many believers are skeptical of the gifts or completely turned off to them because of unbiblical uses, abuses of the gifts, fraudulent gifts, or because they haven't seen the gifts in operation. How can a Christian arrive at a place of balance, not discounting the scriptures, having open hands to God, while also avoiding the strangeness of charismania? Do genuine movements of the Holy Spirit have to also be weird or sensational?
- Let's share a few testimonies and encourage one another's faith. Can you think of a time when God significantly used one or more of the gifts in your life? This could be a time when God used your gift to bless someone else, or when they used their gift to bless you!

**Study: Additional scriptures for deeper Bible study.**

- 1 Peter 4:10-11 Keywords: Stewardship & Glory.
- 2 Timothy 1:6-7 What did Paul mean by "stirring up" the gift of God in you?
- Exodus 31:1-6 The Spirit's threefold work of calling, equipping, and using Bezalel.
- Galatians 5:22-23 How should spiritual fruit impact the use of spiritual gifts?
- Luke 11:11-13 The admonition to ask for the Holy Spirit is a call to seek more of Him.

**Application: How can I apply this to my life this week?**

- Can we see and accept how important it is that we both know what our spiritual gifts are, and that we use them in serving the body of Christ? What are some specific ways that you can serve others in our church with your gifts?
- Some of us may need prayer, council, and assistance in discovering our gifts. One good idea could be to ask a trusted friend to make a list of what they see as possible areas of giftedness in you...and to begin praying together that the Lord would reveal each one's gift or gifts.