
BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE: *Understanding Spiritual Gifts – Part 1*

TODAY'S TEXT  [Romans 12:3-8, 1 Corinthians 12:1, Matthew 25:14-30](#)

What are Spiritual Gifts?

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: *Spiritual gifts are _____ to any believer by the power of the Holy Spirit for the _____ of others.*

How do Spiritual Gifts Work?

Matthew 25:14-30

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: ROMANS: Best News Ever

Message: Part 19 – BUT WAIT, THERE’S MORE: *Understanding Spiritual Gifts – Part 1*

Speaker: Shawn Vandop

Date: March 5, 2023



Connect (30min)

1. NEW & AMAZING

- a. Share a time in your life where you tried something new by simply stepping out, and it turned out to be an amazing experience (e.g. cliff jumping, tasting an exotic food, a new skill or hobby...).
Why do you think we can tend to hold back from stepping out into new experiences? Discuss.
- b. Can you think of time when you tried something new in your relationship with God?
(e.g. in prayer, in worship, in Bible reading, in devotions, in serving, in giving...)
- c. As we begin this new month, do you have a reading/devotional plan engaged? Share.
How can we encourage you in your personal relationship with God this month?

2. 📖 **2023 Prayer Goals: March - BE BOLD IN TRUTH.** Pick up a copy of this month’s brochure at church.
📖 **Read [Psalm 145](#).** Have one person read for this scripture for the group & use this as a guide for prayer.
🙏 **Pray** – Take 10min to P.R.A.Y. together. Leader – time & transition to each component.
-- Pause (be still & listen. 2min) -- Rejoice & Reflect (praise & thanks. 2min.),
-- Ask (invite & request 4min.) -- Yield (surrender & trust. 2min)

Message Discussion (45min)

1. VILLAINS & HEROES

“Villains and heroes actually have the exact same backstory. The villain story and the backstory of the hero are pain. The hero is almost always an orphan in some way; they’re orphaned. The villain, if you watch the movie closely, screenwriters will put a scar on their face, a limp, some sort of speech impediment; what they’re indicating is that this person has a painful backstory. So the difference between the hero and the villain is one thing -- it’s how they respond to pain; and the villain says ‘the world hurt me I’m going to hurt it back,’ and the hero says ‘the world hurt me and I’m not going to let this happen to anybody else.’ It’s literally how you decide to react to pain that causes you to be the villain or the hero.”

– [Donald Miller](#). (Watch - [The Victim, The Villain, The Hero, and The Guide](#))


- a. Who are some memorable fictional villains and real-life villains? Why are they memorable?
- b. Who are some memorable fictional heroes and real-life heroes? Why are they memorable?
- c. If you could have 2 fictional superpowers -- what would they be, why would you choose them, and what is one way you would use them?

2. **MESSAGE FEEDBACK:** What did you learn from Sunday’s message? What encouraged or challenged you?

3. SPIRITUAL GIFTS

📖 **Read [Romans 12:3-8](#).**

- a. What is your initial response to these verses? What do you learn about God and people?
- b. When you hear the term “**spiritual gift**,” what comes to your mind?

- c.  [1 Corinthians 12:1](#) – “Now about spiritual gifts... I do not want you to be ignorant.” (NIV)
 - *Would you say you are or have been ignorant of *spiritual gifts*? Explain
 - *If so, what has been a key reason for your ignorance or misunderstanding?
- d. Why do you think the devil would want to confuse people and cause them to be ignorant about *spiritual gifts*? Discuss.

4. Shawn defined *spiritual gifts* as the following:





Spiritual Gifts are given to any believer by the power of the Holy Spirit for the edification of others.

- a. What does this definition tell you personally about *spiritual gifts*?
- b. How can they be used in your everyday life?

5.  Read [Ephesians 4:11-13](#)

- a. What does this passage of Scripture say about why God gives *spiritual gifts*?
What is their purpose in us and through us?
- b. How does this encourage and challenge you personally?

6. Read through the following scriptures as a group and make a list of all the *spiritual gifts* that you see:

- a.  [Romans 12:6-8](#) > _____
- b.  [1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#) > _____
- c.  [Ephesians 4:11](#) > _____
- d.  [1 Peter 4:7-11](#) > _____

7. Do you identify with any of the *spiritual gifts* we read about?

How have you seen *spiritual gifts* in action in your own life or those around you? Share your experiences.

Every gift of God is empowered by love and expressed by faith – K.O. Manuel

God has given a spiritual gift to the church in you, and you dare not keep it to yourself -- Aaron Niequist

Application & Prayer (15min)

- Consider the **Spiritual Gifts Information** on pages 4-6 before next week, including the online assessment options.
- Ask God to give you greater understanding, clarity and openness to the gifts of the Spirit.
- In response to our sharing and discussion – how can we Pray for you?

- Plan to celebrate and share in **Communion** together as a Life Group this month.

Spiritual Gifts – Definitions and Scripture References

ADMINISTRATION:

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks.

Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

APOSTLESHIP:

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training.

Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14

CRAFTSMANSHIP:

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications.

Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3

DISCERNMENT:

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood, to distinguish between right and wrong motives and the spiritual forces at work in situations.

Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6

EVANGELISM:

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born-again Christian.

Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14

EXHORTATION:

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to strengthen, comfort or urge others to action through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth.

Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25

FAITH:

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life.

Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11

GIVING:

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth.

Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7 65

HEALING:

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical, mental and spiritual sickness.

Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28

HELPS:

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry with the ability to often see the need before others do.

Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28

HOSPITALITY:

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church.

Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9

INTERCESSION:

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results.

Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16

WORD OF KNOWLEDGE:

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to bring truth to a situation by supernatural revelation. This is often accompanied by a word from God.

Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3

LEADERSHIP:

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea.

Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17

MERCY:

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way.

Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thess. 5:14

MIRACLES:

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction.

Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28

PASTOR/SHEPHERD:

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues.

John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3

PROPHECY:

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to communicate God's truth and heart in a way that calls people to a right relationship with God.

Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

SERVICE:

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ.

Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14

TEACHING:

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians.

Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14

TONGUES (and Interpretation):

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately.

Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14

WORD OF WISDOM:

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to understand and to bring clarity to situations and circumstances often through applying the truths of Scripture in a practical way.

Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8

Online Spiritual Gifts Assessments & Info:

<https://spiritualgiftstest.com>

<https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey>

<https://www.sdrock.com/giftstes>