

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## Sermon Points

**Week 1 - 4.23.23 | Tyler Wilson**

**Title: What are Spiritual Gifts?**

**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-12**

Main Point: Spiritual gifts are various abilities given by God's grace to all believers in order to minister to others with heightened effectiveness that is empowered by, and in fact a manifestation of, the Holy Spirit for the purpose of building up the church.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-12 ESV - Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

### **WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:**

**#1 - Gives Life** - Animates, regenerates, sustains, fills with life - saves: makes spiritually alive (Gen. 1:2, 6, Ezek. 37:5, 1 Pet. 3:18)

**#2 - Reveals Truth** - Inspires, teaches, gives clarity and illuminates God's Word (John 14:26, 16:13, Luke 12:12, 2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Pet. 1:21, Acts 1:16, 1 Cor. 2:12, Eph. 1:17-19)

**#3 - Sanctifies** - Makes holy, convicts and cleanses from sin, transforms, produces ongoing heart and life change (John 16, Rom. 8:4, 13-16, Gal. 5:22, 2 Cor. 3:18, 2 Thess. 2:13, 1 Pet. 1:2, Phil. 1:19, 1 Cor. 6:11)

**#4 - Empowers** - Enables victory over temptation, sin, Satan and the demonic, emboldens gospel sharing and receiving, gives gifts for service, answers prayer, supplies

miracles, and fuels character and endurance in the face of suffering (Matt. 12:28, 1 Cor 12:11, Col. 1:29, Rom. 8:26, Eph. 2:18, Acts 1:8, 2:37, 13:2, Eph. 6:10-20)

**#5 - Guides** - Counsels, directs, leads in daily living (Acts 8:29, 10, 13, 15:28, 16:6-7, 20:22-23, Rom. 8:14, Gal. 5:18)

**#6 - Ministers** - Comforts, cares for, encourages, advocates, gives assurance and help (John 16, Acts 9:31, Rom. 8:16, 26, 1 John 3:24, 4:13)

**#7 - Unifies** - Creates community, binds together in love, enables the one-anothers (Acts 2:44-47, 2 Cor. 13:14, Phil. 2:2, Eph. 2:18, Eph. 4:3, 1 Cor. 12:7, 11)

Working Definition:

**Spiritual Gifts** = various abilities given by God's grace to all believers in order to minister to others with heightened effectiveness that are empowered by, and in fact manifestations of, the Holy Spirit for the purpose of building up the church.

- **Principle #1** - Diversity within Unity: everyone has at least 1 gift, nobody has them all - we each are different.
- **Principle #2** - Spiritual gifts are not achieved, they are received.
- **Principle #3** - You don't have your gifts for you - you have them for others!
- **Principle #4** - Gifts without love are worthless
- **Principle #5** - Spiritual Gifts produce effective results
- **Principle #6** - Spiritual gifts are gifts of the Spirit Himself - they are HIS power and presence on display as He IS the gift!
- **Principle #7** - Everyone's gifts are critical to the collective church
  - 1 - We're inseparably connected under Christ
  - 2 - We all have a role to play
  - 3 - No one is more vital or less valuable than anybody else
  - 4 - We all need each other and are impacted by each other

**Goal #1 - Clarify the Gifts**

Administration Apostleship Discernment Evangelism Exhortation Faith Giving Healing Interpretation of Tongues Knowledge	Leadership Mercy Miracles Prophecy Serving / Helping Shepherding Teaching Tongues Wisdom
---	--

### What Spiritual Gifts Are NOT:

- Personality Tests (1 Cor. 12:4-11)
- Personal Character (Rom. 12:3-21)
- Positions (1 Cor. 12:12-26)
- Power Structures (Eph. 4:11-15)
- Performances (1 Pet. 4:10)
- Profit Opportunities (1 Cor. 13:1-3)
- Pandemonium (1 Cor. 14:6-40)
- Passes (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Perfect Proficiency (2 Tim. 1:6)
- Primary Priority (1 Cor. 15:1-5)

### **Goal #2 - IDENTIFY your gifts**

### **Goal #3 - UTILIZE your gifts**

The individual call:

YOU are gifted by grace!

YOU are called to minister!

YOU are needed in the body!

YOU are empowered to do it!

### Prayers for this series - Pray God would:

- 1 - Make us open to what He wants to show us and do through us, even if it's something we previously were closed to or uncomfortable about.
- 2 - Show people what their gifts are and give clarity, direction, and affirmation.
- 3 - Lead people to flourish as they eagerly explore using their gifts and find their role to play in the body.
- 4 - Empower our gifts to effectively minister to others - that people would be cared for, helped, healed, encouraged, taught, saved, etc. as a result.
- 5 - Keep us reliant on Him rather than ourselves as we use our gifts.
- 6 - Purify our hearts in the use of our gifts to be motivated by love.
- 7 - Protect us from pride in our gifts or selfish ambition in seeking positions or recognition for our gifts rather than the glory of God.
- 8 - Guard us from envy, jealousy or rivalry and instead enable us to be joyfully content in the gifts He's given us.
- 9 - Harness and hone our gifts, helping us grow in their effectiveness as we submit to Him.
- 10 - Root out of us excuses and entitlement that would use spiritual gifts to justify not obeying biblical calls to all believers.
- 11 - Give us a deep sense of our need for others and make us willing not just to offer ministry but to receive ministry in return.

12 - Unify us further as a church with deeper love and tighter oneness, protecting us from any hint of division with deferring kindness and humility.

13 - Make us more missional to non-Christians as we operate more fully in our gifts.

14 - Do ordinary and extraordinary things among us to increase our faith and awe.

15 - Strengthen our GC's as people utilize their gifts 1st and foremost there.

16 - Cause us to welcome, praise, and celebrate the Holy Spirit rather than quench, neglect, or despise Him.

17 - Help us earnestly desire the Holy Spirit's presence and power in all of His gifts. (1 cor. 12:31 / 14:1)

18 - Maintain our primary focus as a church on the gospel as 1st importance.