



The Doctrine of Spiritual Gifts, part 2

How has Christ blessed me to be His servant?

I. What is a spiritual gift?

“A special ability, manifestation or anointing given by the Spirit to empower and equip believers to serve one another, build up Christ’s Church and help fulfill the Great Commission”

II. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-14, 27-31; Ephesians 4:11-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Timothy 2:4-7

1. To serve one another in the Body of Christ
2. To help Christ’s church grow in love, unity and maturity
3. To produce fruit in preaching the gospel and making disciples
4. To express God’s truth of unity in diversity

III. What does the Bible say about spiritual gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4-13, 27-30

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. ⁶ There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons*. ⁷ But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ For to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, and to another the **word of knowledge** according to the same Spirit; ⁹ to another **faith** by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ and to another the effecting of **miracles**, and to another **prophecy**, and to another the **distinguishing of spirits**, to another *various* kinds of **tongues**, and to another the **interpretation of tongues**. ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. ¹² For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many.

²⁷ Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church, first **apostles**, second **prophets**, third **teachers**, then **miracles**, then gifts of **healings**, **helps**, **administrations**, *various* kinds of **tongues**. ²⁹ All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not *workers of* miracles, are they? ³⁰ All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? ³¹ But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

1. There are a variety of gifts, ministries and results
2. Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit, they are *pneumatikon and charismaton*, gifts of the Spirit and gifts of grace

3. When we use our gifts in the power of the Spirit then God works through us
4. The manifestation of the Spirit in spiritual gifts is for the common good
5. We have different spiritual gifts but we have a common relationship and connection with the Spirit
6. Spiritual gifts are compared to parts of a human body, all the parts make up the whole and all the parts are needed
7. There is a structure or hierarchy of gifts within the function of the Church
8. No particular gift is given to every believer
9. The Church should desire the greater gifts for the edification of the Body
10. A more excellent way, even over the function of gifts, is the way of God's agape love in 1 Corinthians 13
11. The gifts mentioned in 1 Cor. 12:7-11, are **manifestation gifts**; they manifest the presence and work of the Spirit
12. The gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:27-31 are **management** gifts. They are given for the organization and functionality of the Church

Romans 12:1-8

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. ⁴ For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if **prophecy**, according to the proportion of his faith; ⁷ if **service**, in his serving; or he who **teaches**, in his teaching; ⁸ or he

who **exhorts**, in his exhortation; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.

⁹ *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good.* ¹⁰ *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor;* ¹¹ *not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;* ¹² *rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,* ¹³ *contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.*

1. Our first priority, in response to God's mercy, is to present our whole selves to God as an act of worship
2. We are to stop being conformed to the world and proactively seek to be transformed by the renewing of our minds
3. We are to think truthfully, appropriately, and in faith about ourselves
4. There is one Body of Christ with many members
5. The members of Christ's Body do not have the same function even though they are each individually members of Christ's Body
6. We have different gifts according to the grace given to us, they are *charismata*, gifts of grace
7. Our gifts are to be put into practice, they are to be used and exercised
8. The exercising of spiritual gifts must be done in conjunction with Christ-like other-centered attitudes
9. The gifts mentioned in this passage are **motivation** gifts, they reveal the believer's motivation in serving others and the Body of Christ