

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

“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... And God has appointed in the church first **apostles**, second **prophets**, third **teachers**, then **miracles**, then gifts of **healing**, **helping**, **administrating**, and various kinds of **tongues**.” I Corinthians 12:8-10,28 ESV

- **WISDOM:** 1 Cor. 12:8. Greek: sophia - wisdom, application of knowledge
 - Spiritual intuition or supernatural revelation pertaining to applying Godly truth to a current situation, resolving a problem, or giving practical instruction. A sense of being guided by the Spirit in circumstances in order to take appropriate actions.
- **WORD OF KNOWLEDGE:** 1 Cor. 12:8. Greek: gnosis - knowledge, knowing
 - Supernatural revelation of information; to know something you did not know prior to the revelation by the Holy Spirit. These facts can be confirmed. To know a testable current or historic fact that you never learned and know without any human aid, attributed only to Divine help.
- **FAITH:** 1 Cor. 12:8-10. Greek: pistis - faith, assurance, belief
 - Spiritual surge of confidence which rises within a person in a particular situation of need or challenge and gives an extraordinary certainty, trust, and assurance that God is about to act. To have unshakable conviction and be firmly persuaded of God’s power in a circumstance and to fight off unbelief until it is resolved.
- **HEALINGS:** 1 Cor. 12:9,28,30. Greek: iama - from root ioamai - to heal, cure, or make whole
 - To be a conduit of supernatural healing, meaning without human aid. To make one whole includes physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual healing. To command a healing in Jesus name and see it happen. To do through the Spirit, as Jesus did when He healed the sick.
- **MIRACLES:** 1 Cor. 12:10,28. Greek: dynamis - miracle, mighty work, power, force
 - A mighty supernatural work enabled by God that is beyond that which is natural and performs mighty deeds. To exercise authority over the natural laws, sin, infirmity, and forces that cause hindrances to the Kingdom purposes. Miracles can validate the message of God that comes with the worked miracle (I Thes 1:5, I Cor 4:20)
- **PROPHECY:** Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:10; Eph. 4:11.
Greek: propheteia comes from prophetes (prophet): 'pro'=fore; 'phemi'=to say or declare
 - “The one who prophesies speaks... upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.” I Cor 14:3.
Speaking an inspired message of God, not just from intellect, in the known shared language. Inspired divine anointed declaration: message, vision statement, calling, gifting, or future oriented events. These messages can be heard from God, spiritually seen in a vision or dream, or flow as the person speaks.
- **DISCERNMENT, DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN SPIRITS:** 1 Cor. 12:10.
Greek: diakrisis - distinguish, discern, decide, judge ('dia'=through/with, “krino”= distinguish/separate)
 - A supernatural knowing of whether the behavior, activity, or teaching is from God, Satan, human error, or human power. To clearly distinguish not by intellectual means or observation, truth from error or pure from sinful motives. Can imply the possession of spiritual senses of vision, hearing, or emotions to reveal the spiritual world of the enemy and his forces (demons), as well as, God and His messengers (angels). To rightly determine if actions, attitudes, works, teachings, or beings are of the camp of God or Satan. Discernment is not characterized by suspicion or accusation.
- **TONGUES:** 1 Cor 12:10, 14:27-28. Greek: glossa - language, dialect, speech, tongue/bodily organ
 - To speak in a language not previously learned by inspiration of the Holy Spirit. These languages can be in current use on earth, come from ancient culture, or a language never used by any earthly cultural group

considered an “unknown” tongue. (Acts 2:4; 10:44-48; 19:1-7; I Cor.12:10,28-31; 13:1-3; 14:2,4-22,26-31).

- **INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES:** I Cor 12:10, 14:27-28.

Greek: hermeneia - interpretation or translation of something spoken

- Supernatural ability to know the content of words spoken in another tongue without having learned that language. It functions, not as an operation of the human mind, but of the Spirit. To translate the message or general meaning of what someone has spoken in tongues; this does not have to be a word for word translation.

- **APOSTLE:** Eph. 4:11; 1 Cor. 12:28.

Greek: apostolos - apostle, messenger, sent one ('apo'=from 'stello'=send; one sent forth)

- To be a representative of God, to be sent out and carry a message of God and His word from a position of leadership (Acts 6:2). Providing leadership and vision over church bodies and maintaining authority over spiritual matters pertaining to the church. To have vision for and establish new Kingdom works and advance the Church into new frontiers.

- **TEACHING:** Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11

Greek: didasko - teach, taught, instruct, impart instruction

- To be able to study, apply, and explain the truths of God, usually from Biblical text, with an inspired or supernatural ability. This is in contrast to the prophet who is seen to be speaking from the mouth of God, who's message does not require learning or study. The teaching presentation can be through various forms of speaking, writing, creative art, song, play, or Bible studies (ie. Bible study teacher, children's ministry teacher, Bible study writer, etc...). The teaching may be for an individual or crowds.

- **SERVICE, MINISTRY, HELPS:** Rom. 12:7, 1 Cor. 12:28

Greek: diakonia - servant, deacon, attendant, minister, serves food; Helps (antilēmpsis) to aid or help

- To minister or serve with supernatural love and care to those in need like a deacon, and thus free the leaders to other duties. To assist, help, serve, or support others directly in their ministry. To help and serve the body of Christ in practical actions. This may be supporting the Church by cleaning, serving food, caring for the sick, organizing, making flyers, setting up chairs, running cameras or sound equipment, etc.

- **ADMINISTRATION:** 1 Cor. 12:28. Greek: kybernesis - steer, guide, government, director

- Spiritual ability to steer the body toward the accomplishment of God-given goals by planning, organizing, governing, and supervising others. Running ministries toward the goals set by the leadership team and given by God. Keen understanding of the Kingdom goals and supernatural implementation to reach those goals. Under the power of the Holy Spirit, organizing service teams, Church event planning, making calendars, keeping schedules, communicating events or information, etc.

Gifts Given by Grace

“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if **prophecy**, in proportion to our faith; if **service**, in our serving; the one who **teaches**, in his teaching; the one who **exhorts**, in his exhortation; the one who **contributes**, in generosity; the one who **leads**, with zeal; the one who does acts of **mercy**, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:6-8 ESV

- **EXHORTATION:** Rom. 12:8. Greek: paraklesis - calling to one's side, exhort, console, comfort

- Literally means, “calling to someone” to encourage him. Encouragement, comfort, consolation, or reminding (Acts 4:36; Heb. 10:25). This can be spoken encouragement, writing notes, etc.

- **GIVING, CONTRIBUTING:** Rom. 12:8. Greek: metadidomi - give, share, impart

- giving in a spirit of generosity to share what material resources you have with liberality and cheerfulness without thought of return through the power of the Holy Spirit. This includes being led by the Spirit where and when to give. This gift should be exercised liberally, without ostentation, control, or boasting (II Cor. 1:12; 8:2; 9:11,13). It can mean to provide resources to those who do not have them.

- **LEADERSHIP:** Rom. 12:8. Greek: proistemi - to be over, to stand before, superintend, preside

- To be “placed at the front in some activity”. To stand before the people in such a way as to attend supernaturally to the direction of the group. To lead with such care and diligence so as to motivate others to get involved in the accomplishment of these goals. To embrace model action, care, supervision, and direction by leading of the Holy Spirit.
- **MERCY:** Rom. 12:8. Greek: eleeo - mercy, compassion, pity
 - Identifying and attending to those suffering whether physically, mentally, or emotionally with supernatural grace. To be sensitive toward those who are suffering and can include feeling genuine sympathy with their misery while remaining cheerful. Speaking words of compassion and caring with deeds of love, a listening ear, or just being present to help alleviate their distress.

Equippers as Gifts

“And he gave the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **shepherds** and **teachers**, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ” Ephesians 4:11-12 ESV

(The role of these various equippers is not covered here, just their giftings.)

- **EVANGELISM:** Eph. 4:11.
 - Greek: euaggelistes - preacher of gospel or messenger of good news ('eu'=well, 'angelos'=message)
 - To be a messenger of the good news of the Gospel of Christ to people in darkness through spiritual empowerment. To preach and to witness to bring unbelievers unto salvation.
- **SHEPHERD (PASTOR):** Eph. 4:11. Greek: poimen - shepherd, pastor, herdsman, manager, director
 - To disciple, to be responsible for spiritually caring for, protecting, guiding, and feeding a group of believers entrusted to one's care through the power of the Spirit. To care, protect, lead, nurture the people in ones care. This can include a small group leader, children's Sunday school teacher, spiritual mentoring or discipling, recovery group, etc.

Possible Gifts

“Show **hospitality** to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever **speaks**, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever **serves**, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies” 1 Peter 4:9-11

- **HOSPITALITY:** 1 Pet. 4:9,10.
 - Greek: philoxenos - hospitable, fond of guests and strangers ('philos'=fond/love, 'xenos'=stranger)
 - To warmly welcome people, even strangers, into one's home or church as a means of serving those in need through the power of the Spirit. It was manifested in lavish care to believers and workers who came to visit, to worship, labor and form part of the body of Christ. This can include hosting a small group, welcoming people at church, serving church lunches, hosting missionaries in your home, taking in foster or college students, etc.
- **MISSIONARY** - not specifically mentioned in the Bible
 - This is usually either an evangelistic or an apostolic person who is taking the Gospel to a new people group or starting new Kingdom works. This can include facing cross-cultural dynamics, remote areas, and unknown situations.
- **INTERCESSION** - not specifically mentioned in the Bible
 - Praying for others, usually for longer periods of time, with a firm resolution that your prayers will be heard. A supernatural deep desire, burden, and joy to pray for others: unbelievers, fellow believers, the needy or sick, those in sin, nations, ministries, etc. The desire to pray may be stirred by another gift like prophecy, words of knowledge, faith, or mercy.
- **WORSHIP** - not specifically mentioned in the Bible
 - Leading worship or writing worship while being empowered by the Holy Spirit. Wanting to bring others into an experience of deep worship to God.

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