



**SERVE**

**INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUAL GIFTS**



## Introduction

Peter Wagner defines a spiritual gift as “a special attribute given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the Body of Christ according to God’s grace for use within the context of the Body.”

God has gifted every single believer with at least one spiritual gift to build up the body of Christ and to extend God’s Kingdom

*To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.*

**1 Cor 12:8-10**

It is freely given by the Holy Spirit as an act of divine grace (the word normally translated in Greek is ‘charismata’ which means ‘gift of grace’). Our Heavenly Father loves to bestow gifts to whoever desires them

*Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.*

**James 1:17**

Another Greek word for spiritual gift, ‘diakonia’, means to minister or serve. This word was used in Mark 10:45 to describe the purpose Jesus came to earth.

*For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

**Mark 10:45**

As different parts of the body of Christ, God has given us spiritual gifts to serve the church – to reach all people with the Good News.

### What spiritual gifts are NOT:

- Receiving of the Holy Spirit  
The Holy Spirit is received the moment a person trusts Jesus as their Saviour

*Peter replied, “Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

**Acts 2:38**

- Human talents  
Spiritual gifts are supernatural abilities that God gives by the Spirit

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.*  
**1 Corinthians 12:4**

- Fruit of the Spirit  
Fruit of the Spirit has to do with character while the gifts of the Spirit have to do with service.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*  
**Galatians 5:22-23**

- Offices  
A person can have a gift without functioning in the corresponding office. However, those who occupy an office should possess the corresponding spiritual gift.

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,*  
**Ephesians 4:11**

## Categories of Spiritual Gifts

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.  
There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.*  
**1 Corinthians 12:4-5**

Type	Purpose	Spiritual Gift
<b>Motivational gift (Romans 12:7-8; Peter 4:10-11)</b>	To shape our perspective on life, how we relate to others and how we impact the body of Christ.	Prophecy Serving Teaching Exhorting Giving Organising Mercy

<b>Ministry gift</b> <b>(Ephesians 4:11-13)</b>	5-fold ministry to serve and meet the needs of others.	Apostles Prophets Evangelists Pastors Teachers
<b>Manifestation gifts</b> <b>(1 Corinthians 12)</b>	To demonstrate the supernatural power of God.	<b>Speaking gifts</b> Tongues Interpretation of tongues Prophecy  <b>Knowing gifts</b> Word of knowledge Wisdom Discernment  <b>Power gifts</b> Faith Healing Miracles

## Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

1. **Pray and ask God** to reveal what we are gifted in so that we can better use them for His glory.
2. **Ask others** to note what gift(s) they see in you. It can be a confirmation and most often your leaders are able to identify a spiritual gift that you might not recognise.
3. **Spiritual gift tests** can help us understand what our gifting may be.
4. Begin **servicing** in various areas to discover what seems like a good fit for you.
5. Seek to recall in what ways God is already using you to bear **fruit** since that may be an indication of your gift(s).

## Conclusion

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

**1 Peter 4:10**

*For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

**Mark 10:45**

As you discover your God-given gifts, submit to the Holy Spirit's guidance as He shows you how He wants you to fulfill His vision and mission. Most importantly, while we eagerly desire greater gifts, we should walk in the love of God. Without love, our gifts and actions are meaningless

*If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3**

Be faithful stewards of your gifts to serve others just as Jesus did for love.



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