

THE MULTIPLIED LIFE

The Stewardship of Talents – Spiritual Gifts

I. DEFINITION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. Spiritual Gift is defined with the Greek word “*charisma*” – “a gift of grace, a free gift”.

“Spiritual gifts are God’s special gifts given to believers to enable them for special service to the body of Christ and in the world.” J. Hampton Keathley III

“A spiritual gift is a gift by God’s grace given sovereignly by the Holy Spirit for service or ministry in the local church. These have nothing to do with native abilities.” Ron Merryman

B. Spiritual Gifts are supernatural gifts –

1. Designed to provide a unique grace-given ability to do God’s will. (1Peter 4:8-11)
2. Designed to bring glory to God. (1Pet. 4:11)
3. Designed for special service and edification to the Body of Christ. (1Cor. 12:7; 14:1-6, 12, 26; 1Peter 4:10)

C. Gifts vs. Talents

- How can you know the difference?

II. DISTRIBUTION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

DBC Doctrinal Statement:

“We believe that God is sovereign in the bestowment of all His gifts. We believe that at the moment of regeneration every believer receives enabling gifts for service, bestowed by the Holy Spirit. While there is a diversity of gifts, each believer is empowered by the same Spirit and each is called to his own divinely appointed service in love as the Spirit directs. These gifts are given to the believers by the Holy Spirit at the point of salvation for the purpose of fulfilling God’s blueprint for each believer to function in a local church for the edification of the body.”(Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-26; 13:1-13; 14:4, 12, 26)

A. Spiritual gifts are given on the basis of grace. (1Pet. 4:10; Rom. 12:6)

- How many can you receive?

B. Spiritual gifts were given by the Holy Spirit to every believer in Christ beginning in the early church. (1Cor. 12:4-13)

C. Spiritual gifts can be categorized in longevity or function. (1Cor. 13:8; Eph. 2:20; Heb. 2:4)

Temporary Gifts (Foundational)

1. Word of Wisdom (1Cor. 12:8)
2. Word of Knowledge (1Cor. 12:8)
3. Faith (1Cor. 12:9)
4. Healing (1Cor. 12:10)
5. Miracles (1Cor. 12:10)
6. Prophecy (1Cor. 12:10)
7. Discerning of Spirits (1Cor. 12:10)
8. Tongues (1Cor. 12:10)
9. Interpretation of Tongues (1Cor. 12:10)
10. Apostles (1Cor. 12:28)

Permanent Gifts (Superstructure)

1. Pastor/Teachers (Eph. 4:11)
2. Evangelists (Eph. 4:11)
3. Teachers (Rom. 12:7)
4. Ministry (Rom. 12:7)
5. Exhortation (Rom. 12:8)
6. Giving (Rom. 12:8)
7. Ruling (Rom. 12:8)
8. Showing Mercy (Rom. 12:8)
9. Helps (1Cor. 12:28)
10. Governing (1Cor. 12:28)

D. Spiritual gifts can be divided into four functional categories:

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|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Revelatory Gifts | 3. Leadership/Teaching Gifts |
| 2. Confirming Gifts | 4. Ministering Gifts |

* Do you know your spiritual gift(s)?

III. MANIFESTATION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. Holy Spirit enables/empowers you and will manifest your gift(s) as you permit him to control you. (1Cor. 12:4, 7)

* Have you been allowing the Holy Spirit to control you?

B. Manifestation of your gift(s) will take time and maturation. (Ephesians 4:12-13 Heb. 5:12-13)

* Why do some believers never learn their spiritual gift(s)?