

PRINCETON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

J. Andrew White + August 28, 2011

"What are the the spiritual gifts?"

Christian, you can serve Christ and His church if you will better understand tonight the spiritual gifts as revealed in the Scriptures here.

I. What are the types of spiritual gifts? The gifts are related to the health of the church as the human body's systems are related to the health of the body. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Functions: Like the human body...

Bone Structure: Church built up. Foundational. **Apostle, Prophet**

[Miraculous gifts to establish New Testament]

Nervous System: Nerves, eyes, ears. Direction. **Administration, leading, Discernment, Wisdom, Faith.** Leadership, Pastors, Ruling elders. WIC. leaders.

Muscular System: The work. **Giving, Service, Ministering, Mercy, Helping, Working.**

Circulation System: Life flowing. Heart. **Pastor/Teacher, Exhorting, Speaking, Intercession**

Digestive System: Nourishment to body. **Teaching, Knowledge, Love, Hospitality, Faith**

Glandular System: Reproduction, growth. **Evangelist, Missionary, Martyrdom, Church planters, Witness.** Growing, vision, evangelism, outreach.

II. What are the Principles for Spiritual Gifts?

1. Every Christian receives the Holy Spirit when he/she becomes a Christian (1 Cor 12:1-3, Jn 3:5ff).
2. Every Christian needs to daily seek a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).
3. Every Christian receives at least one Gift by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 12:7,11), and needs to utilize The gift(s) for service (1 Peter 4:10,11).
4. The Gifts are given for the 'common good', edification of the church (1 Cor 12:7;14:12).
5. The lists of the Gifts in the Scriptures are not exclusive. Others perhaps are not listed. (See list of gifts.)
6. Gifts are discovered by desiring, discerning, doing, and the counsel of Christian friends (1 Cor12:1ff;14:1ff; 1 Peter 4:10,11).

Christian, what are your gifts? Will you seek to know, to learn, to grow?

1. Are you a Christian? Your service? Your gifts? How know? More like discovery.
2. Not 'fancy', rather practical. **Exodus 35:30-35** Bezalel Next week's message: YOUR gifts? Need for prayer, counsel of others, Bible study.
3. Not exclusive: Linked often to natural ability. Our list to help, but not to limit.
4. Question: Is it for edification of the church?
YOU are special, and vital to the health and growth of the church.
5. There is a relationship in your usefulness to the church and your maturity in Christ.