

Spiritual Gifts

Lesson # 9 Homework

Memorize: I Corinthians 12:7

“But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

Spiritual gifts are given by God to believers for the purpose of ministry within the church. The English term comes from two Greek words, *charismata* and *pneumatika*. The root of *charismata* is *charis*, which means “grace” and speaks of something undeserved or unearned. The second word, *pneumatika*, means “spirituals” or things given by the Spirit of God. In this lesson, you will look at various spiritual gifts and how they should be used in the body of Christ.

I. The Nature of Spiritual Gifts

A. Who is the source of spiritual giftedness?

1. I Corinthians 12:11 _____
2. I Corinthians 12:28 _____

B. Who possesses spiritual giftedness (I Peter 4:10)?

C. What is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

1. I Corinthians 12:4-7 _____
2. I Corinthians 14:12 _____
3. I Peter 4:10-11 _____

II. The Provision of Spiritual Gifts

A. Spiritual gifts are referred to in Scripture. List them below.

1. I Corinthians 12:8-10

| | | |
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| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

2. I Corinthians 12:28b

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

3. Romans 12:6-8

| | | |
|-------|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

B. Understanding the gifts.

For a better understanding of how the spiritual gifts function, we have classified the gifts into two categories: temporary (special) and permanent.

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| <p style="text-align: center;">TEMPORARY GIFTS</p> <p>Temporary gifts were given by the Holy Spirit for confirming the testimony of the apostles and prophets. They were prevalent in the early church, but ceased to be evident as the church was established.</p> |
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■ **Miracles**

The ability to do “wonders” and “signs”. Christ performed many miracles as recorded in Scripture. Paul used this gift to affirm his apostleship as described in II Corinthians 12:12.

■ **Healing**

Peter had this gift (see Acts 3:6-8; 5:15-16), which affirmed his message and helped establish the foundation for the church.

■ **Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues**

Manifested by the speaking of a language unknown to the speaker (see Acts 2:1-11). This gift had to be accompanied by the gift of interpretation (I Corinthians 14:27-28).

PERMANENT GIFTS

Gifts given by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the church. These were prevalent in the early church and still are in the church today.

■ **Prophecy**

Preaching or “to tell forth or declare the Scripture.” Prophecy does not necessarily mean to foretell the future.

■ **Teaching**

The ability to teach the Word of God and bless the hearers with the understanding of the Scriptures that the Author intended.

■ **Faith**

A consistent, enabling faith that truly believes God in the face of overwhelming obstacles and human impossibilities, and for great things. John MacArthur calls this the “gift of prayer” because the gift is primarily expressed toward God through prayer.

■ **Wisdom**

The ability to apply wisdom, gained from spiritual insight, to believers; knowing what is right and what is wrong; applied knowledge.

■ **Knowledge**

An understanding of the facts of Scripture. From the human perspective, it is scholarship or the ability to know the truths of Scripture in a way that is both broad and deep.

■ **Discernment**

The ability to tell which things are from the Spirit and which are not; distinguishes truth from error. This gift serves as protection for the church.

■ **Mercy**

The ability to show deep compassion to those who have spiritual, physical, or emotional needs.

■ **Exhortation**

The ability to encourage and motivate. A person with this gift can come alongside another to comfort him with love, to encourage him to a deeper spiritual commitment and growth, or to exhort him to action. This is the gift that qualifies people to exercise a counseling ministry in the body.

■ **Giving**

This gift is a direct reference to the material ministry of giving: food, clothes, money, houses, etc. in response to the needs of the church.

■ **Administration/Leadership**

The ability to oversee the flock. This may be seen in pastors and elders; also those in leadership of missionary societies, youth work, evangelistic associations, etc.

■ **Helps**

Aiding in a time of need, or bearing one another's burdens, as the situation arises.

■ **Service**

Working for the body of Christ in areas of physical ministries such as serving food, maintenance, etc.

III. The Exercise of Spiritual Gifts

A. State the principle(s) expressed in Romans 12:6-8:

B. Read I Corinthians 13:1-7 and answer the following questions:

1. How can your giftedness be abused and without benefit (verses 1-3)?

2. Since your spiritual giftedness is to be exercised in love, what are some guidelines that will ensure the profitability of your gifts?

List fifteen guidelines (verses 4-7):

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| a. _____ | i. _____ |
| b. _____ | j. _____ |
| c. _____ | k. _____ |
| d. _____ | l. _____ |
| e. _____ | m. _____ |
| f. _____ | n. _____ |
| g. _____ | o. _____ |
| h. _____ | |

C. First Corinthians 12 reveals the importance of each spiritual gift within the body of Christ. According to I Corinthians 12:25, what should your attitude be in the use of your spiritual giftedness?

D. Read Ephesians 4:11-16. What causes the growth of the body of Christ (verse 16)?

IV. Application

A. Discovery of Your Gift

Each member of the body is commanded to minister in many of the gifted areas, whether he or she possesses that particular gift or not.

| For Example, All Christians Are to Function in the Following Areas: | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Faith | II Corinthians 5:7 |
| 2. Wisdom | James 1:5 |
| 3. Knowledge | II Timothy 2:15 |
| 4. Exhortation | Hebrews 10:25 |
| 5. Giving | II Corinthians 9:7 |
| 6. Care for one another (helps) | I Corinthians 12:25 |

- B. The Bible does not explicitly explain how someone is to determine his or her spiritual giftedness. However, you can begin to discover your giftedness by being obedient in the areas just mentioned. Look for open doors and pray for opportunities to serve. Seek the counsel of other believers because they may be more aware of your gifts than you are.**

In order to discover your possible giftedness in the body and in submission to the elders of your church, in what areas would you be willing to serve?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Each one of us needs to exercise his or her giftedness in ministry for the common good of the church.

“As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

I Peter 4:10

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