

Key Text: Romans 12:6

“And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly...”

How are your natural gifts and your spiritual gifts related?

Can you see how God has already given you a particular “SHAPE”? You have a specific “personality” which is the motivating force behind things that come easy to you and it is also why other things seem foreign and out of reach. Think of a person who can “naturally” talk to anyone and then a different person who is naturally “analytical” or someone else who is “Bossy”. Why are they like that? Your personality is no accident, it has been given to you for the purpose of accomplishing things that God has planned. Romans 11:29 teaches that God’s gifts are without “repentance”. This means that how God has naturally gifted you will be yours forever regardless of your salvation. BUT, unless you surrender your heart and your gifts to the Lord you will miss your God-given potential. This leads us to ask the question, “Why am I made this way?” The answer is simple, you have been made for God’s pleasure not your own. Your life and your gifts belong to God. Romans 12:1,2 reminds us to lay our life and gifts on the altar of worship to God. What would it look like for a natural born leader to miss their God-given potential? They might become a leader in crime or a “cut-throat” businessman but wherever they are in life they will be leading others. Now imagine what that same person would look like if they surrendered that “LEADERSHIP-GIFT” to the Lord. This study will help you identify various gifts from the Lord and encourage you to use them for God.

What Should our attitude be toward the Gifts of The Holy Spirit?

Do Not Be **Ignorant**
1 Corinthians 12:1

Not To Be **Neglected**
1 Timothy 4:14

We should **Desire Them**
1 Corinthians 12:31

They Should Be **Stirred Up**
2 Timothy 1:6

THE GIFTS OF GOD, JESUS, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

THERE ARE GIFTS WE RECEIVED FROM GOD THE FATHER AT OUR BIRTH

Romans 12:1-8

Which of these “Motivational Gifts” matches your temperament and personality the most? What is your responsibility to God with the gifts you have been given? How are you using those gifts right now? (**See Matthew 25:14-30 “The Parable of the Talents”**)

Prophecy: Moved to reveal what is right and wrong and is motivated by truth.

Serving: Motivated to demonstrate love by meeting practical needs or being obedient.

Teaching: Motivated by understanding while seeking out the truth and clarifying things.

Exhortation: Desires to motivate and encourage others.

Giving: Motivated to share assets with others or use those assets to help other people.

Administration: Motivated to organize and lead others to achieve goals.

Mercy: Motivated by sharing with or identifying the hurts and feelings of others.

Do you know your calling?

A “calling” is a phrase that comes from scripture. In general, the word means “INVITATION”. But when the word calling is used in reference to an Apostle or a Pastor, it is more specific. In this sense, a calling is adding more “Definition” to the general invitation. Everyone is invited to be a disciple and share in Christ, but not everyone is meant to be a “Prophet”.

(Rom. 1:6,7; Gal. 1:13,16;
Eph. 4:4; Mk. 8:34;
Lk 1:76)

THERE ARE GIFTS THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE CHURCH BY JESUS

Ephesians 4:7-13

These five main gifts are expressions or extensions of the "Authority" of Christ. This authority is given to Christ because of His death and resurrection. Now that Christ is exalted above all things He has given or designated these five specific ministries to serve the entire church. No one should assume these roles unless they are "called" by God to function in them. Here is the list of gifts and some words associated with their specific function.

- APOSTLE (Establishing and Governing)
- PROPHET (Guiding and Revealing)
- PASTOR (Guarding and Feeding)
- TEACHER (Grounding and Refining)
- EVANGELIST (Gathering and Proclaiming)

THERE ARE GIFTS THAT ARE MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (1 Corinthians 12:8-10)

There are nine gifts that illustrate the power of the Holy Spirit whenever people come together in the Jesus' name.

These gifts are divine and have specific purposes: One, To build up and edify the Church. (**1 Cor. 14:3-5; 12,26,33,40**) Two, Establish and make you strong in faith. (**Romans 1:11**) Three, to profit or benefit you personally. (**1 Cor. 12:7**) Forth, to affirm and to testify of the power of the resurrection in the community. (**Mark 16:15-20**). These gifts are:

- **Wisdom** (The ability to understand supernatural wisdom from God.)
- **Knowledge** (The ability to receive facts and information which would be humanly impossible.)
- **Discernment of Spirits** (The ability to know the spirit behind activities and cope with spiritual situations.)
- **Faith** (The ability to believe God for the impossible.)
- **Healings** (The ability to impart healing to the physical Body at specific times.)
- **Miracles** (The ability to perform what is naturally impossible.)
- **Tongues** (The ability to speak in God-given language which is unknown to the speaker.)
- **Interpretation** (The ability to interpret the message spoken through "tongues" for the benefit of all.)
- **Prophecy** (The ability to speak inspired words pertaining to God's revelation and message.)

Does every believer have all 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit?

No, It is apparent in the Bible that we need each other and that we are not considered complete alone.

(*1 Cor. 12:4-11, 14-18, 27; Eph. 4:16*)

The Holy Spirit gives these gifts individually as He wills. While these gifts are always resident in the Holy Spirit and that He may manifest any of these gifts at any time, it would only be in special situations where all of them are manifested in one person.

The Holy Spirit operates according to the Word of God on the basis of love and for the edification of the entire Church.

How do we "Quench", "Despise" or "Forbid" the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

Simply put, we do these things whenever we go against the will of the Holy Spirit. We must remember to abide in the word of God and avoid doctrines or attitudes which make little of the Holy Spirit. In church gatherings, we must be sensitive to wait on the Holy Spirit and we cannot tolerate rules or methods which miss the hallmark of God's spirit. (*See Galatians 5:25; 1 Cor. 14:39; 1 Thessalonians 5:19,20*)

Can there be "Fake" manifestations of the Holy Spirit?

YES. While there is a chance of experiencing manifestations which are counterfeit, we must remember to test the spirit and have confidence. We do this by staying familiar with Biblical standards and by examining both the individuals and the results. The Holy Spirit will never contradict the gospel message and His manifestations will always produce "Godly" results or "Fruit". (*See Exodus 7:10-13; 1 John 4:; 1 Corinthians 14:29-32; Mark 13:22; Heb.13:7*)