

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

I Corinthians 12-14, Romans 12, I Peter 4, Ephesians 4.

**PURPOSE:** Spiritual Gifts are for the common good not individual glory. 'And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelist, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of the ministry for building up the body of Christ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God....' (Eph. 4: 11-13)

## WHAT THEY ARE NOT:

--**TALENTS:** A talent is present from natural birth; a SPIRITUAL GIFT is present from new birth

--**OFFICES:** A person could hold an office (pastor/teacher, elder) without having the Gift that relates to it; on the other hand, a person could have a Gift, (shepherding) without being called to the corresponding office

--**FRUIT** OF THE SPIRIT: (Gal 5: 22-23)

<u>GIFTS of the Spirit</u>	<u>FRUIT of the Spirit</u>
Has to do with service	Has to do with character
What a man has	What a man is
Given from without	Produced from within
Is plural	Is singular: <u>every</u> variety of 'fruit' should be in every believer
Will cease	Is Permanent (I Cor 13:8-10)

## 1. THE SPEAKING GIFTS:

**The Apostolic Gift:** In the strictest sense this Gift was given only to those who were with Christ (apostles) or had a personal call from Him (Paul). Today in the broader meaning some see it as the 'missionary' Gift. The word missionary is rooted in Latin 'to send' and the word apostle comes from the Greek 'to send.' Both apostles and missionaries were and are sent out.

**The Gift of Prophecy:** The Gift of prophecy from God's spokesmen in the Bible ended with the completion of the NT. Today the definition of the gift of prophecy would take the form of having the Spirit-given ability to accurately proclaim the Word of God in the Bible with clarity and to apply it to a particular situation

**Gift of Evangelism:** a special ability to communicate the Gospel message in relevant terms to unbelievers

**Gift of Shepherding:** one with this Gift will guide, feed (the Word) and guard fellow believers.

**Gift of Teaching:** this Gift has a variety of ministries, from teaching on a one-on-one basis, a small Bible study or being in front of a large audience. It can be exclusively with children or adults or both. It does not guarantee polished ability but it can be developed. This Gift needs to be equipped by pursuing opportunities for learning.

**Gift of Exhortation:** involves the supernatural ability to come alongside to help, to strengthen the weak, reassure the wavering, console the troubled and encourage the halting. It's usually exercised on a personal basis.

**The Gift of Knowledge and of Wisdom:** the ability in knowledge is being enabled to acquire a deep insight into divine truth not discovered by human reason and with wisdom in being able to apply knowledge to various arguments and situation. Some theologians feel that this particular gift should be included with the Signifying Gifts.

## **2. SERVING GIFTS:**

**Gift of Service/Helps:** The ability to serve the church in any supporting role usually on a temporary basis

**Gift of Hospitality:** The supernatural ability to provide open house and warm welcome for those in need of food and lodging

**The Gift of Giving:** The God-given ability to give money for the progress of God's work with such care and cheer that the recipients are fortified.

**The Gift of Leading:** the Spirit given ability to preside, govern, plan, organize and administer with wisdom, fairness, example, humility, service, confidence, ease and efficiency

**The Gift of Mercy:** is the Spirit-guided ability to manifest practical, compassionate, cheerful love toward suffering members of the body of Christ.

**The Gift of Faith:** Is a Spirit-given ability to see something that God wants done and to sustain unwavering confidence that God will do it regardless of seemingly insurmountable obstacles

**The Gift of Discernment:** A special ability to distinguish between the spirit of truth and the spirit of error, that which is raised up by God and that which pretends to be.

## **3. SIGNIFYING (Sign) GIFTS:\***

**The Gift of Miracles**

**The Gift of Healing**

**The Gift of Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues**

**\*NOTE:** It should be considered that the main purpose of the SIGN gifts was to authenticate the early apostolic leaders as divinely commissioned servants of the Lord in the difficult years of the infant church. When the New Testament was completed the need for such credentials diminished and, then ended once for all in the form of a gift of the Spirit.

There is NOT a general consensus as to how many Gifts there are; some sources say as few as 9, others range from 15-22

The book, **19 GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT** by **Leslie B. Flynn**, as the for the above