

October 30, 2022

Disciple Gifts

Spiritual Gifts

Today we address the topic of Spiritual Gifts and the Disciple. Last week we look into **Spiritual Disciplines** and saw the importance for a True Disciple to be 'disciplined' in their lives. Now we investigate the vitalness of understanding and using our Grace gifts from God through His Holy Spirit.

There is a difference between **Spiritual Fruit** and Spiritual Gifts. Spiritual Fruit show your maturity in Christ, while spiritual gifts show your ministry. **Galatians 5:22,23**... The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control.

I Corinthians 12:1 gives the foundation for our study...
"Now about spiritual gifts I do not want you to be ignorant."

A SPIRITUAL GIFT: Is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and build up the Body of Christ.

10 TRUTHS:

1. Only **Believers** have spiritual gifts.
But the natural man does not welcome what comes from God's Spirit, because it is foolishness to him; he is not

able to know it since it is evaluated spiritually.
1 Cor. 2:14

2. Every Christian has at least **One Spiritual** gift.
.. But each has his own gift from God, one this and another that.
1 Cor. 7:7

3. No one receives **All** the gifts.
²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it. ²⁸ And God has placed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, next, miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, managing, various kinds of languages. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all do miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in languages? Do all interpret?
1 Cor. 12:27-30

4. No single gift is given to **Everyone**.
1 Cor. 12:29-30 (see # 3)

5. You can't **Earn or work for** a spiritual gift.
Now grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of the Messiah's gift. Eph. 4:7

6. The **Holy Spirit** decides what gifts you get.
But one and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each one as He wills. 1 Cor. 12:11

7. The gifts given appear to be **Permanent**.
Since God's gracious gifts and calling are irrevocable Romans. 11:29

8. We are to **Develop** the gifts God gives me.

Do not neglect the gift that is in you; it was given to you through prophecy, with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. 1 Tim. 4:14

9. God Expects Us to **Use** the gifts He Gives Us

I Cor 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 1 Cor. 4:1-2 Mt. 25:14-30

10. Using my gifts **Honors** God and **Fulfills** me.

Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. John 15:8

THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

- ♦ For the common good (1 Cor. 12:7)
- ♦ That the church be edified (1 Cor. 14:5)
- ♦ To serve others (I Peter 4:10)
- ♦ To do works of service (Eph. 4:12)
- ♦ To bring unity, maturity and stability
(Eph. 4:13-14)

CAUTIONS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Don't confuse gifts with natural talents.
2. Don't confuse gifts with the Fruit of the Spirit.

Gal. 5:22-23...²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, ²³ gentleness, self-control.

* "Fruit" shows my Maturity.

* "Gifts" show my Ministry.

3. Don't confuse gifts with Christian roles.

4. Be aware of the "gift projection" tendency.

(Expecting others to serve the way you do and have similar results)

5. Don't feel my gift makes me superior to others.

1 Cor. 12:21...¹ So the eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" nor again the head to the feet, "I don't need you!"

6. Recognize that I have both a *Primary* and a *Secondary* ministry in my church:

* My *PRIMARY MINISTRY* commitment should be in the area where I am **Gifted**.

* My *SECONDARY MINISTRY* includes serving in any other area I am **Needed**.

7. Realize that using my gifts without love is worthless!

"I may be able to speak the languages of men and even of angels... I may have the gift of inspired preaching... I may have all knowledge... and all the faith to move mountains -- but if I have not love, I am nothing... it does no good."

1 Cor. 13:1-3

Love and Serving

1 Corinthians 12:31b... **And now I will show you the most excellent way.**

1 Corinthians 13:1-3...*“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing”.*

Spiritual Gifts expressed without love do not reflect who God is and do not have a **Kingdom Impact or Biblical Basis**

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a...*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.*

The Attitude of Servanthood and Spiritual Gifts

God is concerned about our attitudes toward and motivation for ministry. There is a clear difference between service which is done out of servility and that which is offered out of servanthood.

SERVILITY vs **SERVANTHOOD**

<u>SERVES OUT OF</u>	
Obligation	Obedience
<u>MOTIVATED BY</u>	
Fear of Men	Fellowship with God
<u>ATTITUDE OF</u>	
Not my job	Whatever it takes
<u>MINISTRY MINDSET</u>	
Me 1 st	Father 1 st
<u>SPIRIT OF</u>	
Pride	Humility
<u>RESULTS ARE</u>	
Self-Seeking	God-Glorifying

SPIRITUAL GIFTS MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE

Adapted from "Network Leaders Guide" Willow Creek Resources

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	GIFTS MENTIONED
1 CORINTHIANS 12:8-10 For to one is given the word of WISDOM through the Spirit, and to another the word of KNOWLEDGE according to the same Spirit; to another FAITH by the same spirit, and to another gifts of HEALING by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of MIRACLES , and to another PROPHECY , and to another DISCERNING OF SPIRITS , to another various kinds of TONGUES , and to another the INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES . (NASB)	1. Wisdom 2. Knowledge 3. Faith 4. Healing 5. Miracles 6. Prophecy/Proclamation 7. Discernment 8. Tongues 9. Interpretation
1 CORINTHIANS 12:28 And God has appointed the church, first apostles , second prophets, third teachers , then miracles, the gifts of healings, helps , administration , various kinds of tongues. (NASB)	10. Apostles 11. Teachers 12. Helps/Service 13. Administration

ROMANS 12:6-8 And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his EXHORTATION (ENCOURAGEMENT) , he who GIVES , with liberality; he who LEADS , with diligence; he who shows MERCY , with cheerfulness. (NASB)	14. Exhortation/ Encouragement 15. Giving 16. Leadership 17. Mercy
EPHESIANS 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as EVANGELISTS , and some as PASTORS (SHEPHERDS) , and teachers. (NASB)	18. Evangelism 19. Pastor/Shepherding
1 PETER 4:9-10 Be HOSPITABLE to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. (NASB)	20. Hospitality (Note: In the original Greek, verses 9 and 10 appear to be one sentence, thus giving possible textual support for hospitality being included in the list of Spiritual Gifts)

EXODUS 31:3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of CRAFTSMANSHIP . (NASB)	21. Craftsmanship
1 TIMOTHY 2:1-2 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, INTERCESSION and thanksgiving be made for everyone -- for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.	22. Intercession Though this section does not specifically use the word ‘gifts’ it seems applicable to see that certain people have a unique gift of interceding. It may also be a subset of Faith, Healing or Miracles
PSALM 150:3-5 Praise Him with TRUMPET sound; Praise Him with harp and lyre. Praise Him with timbrel and DANCING ; Praise Him with stringed instruments and pipe. Praise Him with loud cymbals; Praise Him with resounding cymbals. (NASB)	23. Creative Arts It can be derived from this passage and many others that God gifts some people with a special skill in the area of Creative Arts. It may be a subset of Craftsmanship or be described as Worship Leadership.

(Note: The lists of Spiritual Gifts found in the Bible are not identical and vary in order and content. Listed above are some of the more “standard” gifts, later in the course is a list of other optional gifts for you to consider and study: celibacy, voluntary poverty, missionary, exorcism, martyrdom.)

LIST OF GIFTS IN THE BIBLE

1. Wisdom
2. Knowledge
3. Faith
4. Healing
5. Miracles
6. Prophecy/Proclamation
7. Discernment
8. Tongues
9. Interpretation
10. Apostles
11. Teachers
12. Helps/Service
13. Administration
14. Exhortation/ Encouragement
15. Giving
16. Leadership
17. Mercy
18. Evangelism
19. Pastor/Shepherding
20. Hospitality
21. Craftsmanship
22. Intercession
23. Creative Arts

Non-traditional gift options : Celibacy, Exorcism, Martyrdom, Missionary, Voluntary Poverty

INVITATION

To IDENTIFY and USE Your SPIRITUAL GIFT given by the Holy Spirit at your conversion, to minister to others and build up the Body of Christ to the glory of God the Father.

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