



Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gifts

Fourth Edition

by Robert L. Brandt

AN INDEPENDENT-STUDY TEXTBOOK

Developed in Cooperation with
Global University Staff

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THE GU CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM



This is one of 18 courses (subjects) that make up the GU Christian Service Program. The symbol at the left is a guide for the order of study in the series, which is divided into three units of six courses each. *Spiritual Gifts* is Course 5 in Unit I. You will benefit greater by studying the courses in the proper order.

Study materials in the Christian Service Program have been prepared in a self-teaching format especially for Christian workers. These courses provide a student with Bible knowledge and skills needed for practical Christian service. You may study this course in order to receive credit toward a certificate, or for personal enrichment.

ATTENTION

Please read the course introduction very carefully. It is important that you follow these instructions so you can achieve the goals of the course, and be prepared for the student reports.

Address all correspondence concerning the course to your GU instructor at the address stamped on the copyright page near the front of the study guide..

COURSE INTRODUCTION

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant” (1 Corinthians 12:1).

Spiritual gifts are very important to the body of Christ. It is exciting to learn about these gifts which God has made available to His children. Without these gifts the church cannot exist or move ahead.

As believers we must learn all we can about spiritual gifts. When our knowledge increases, the gifts find a larger place in our lives and ministry. We become a greater blessing to the family of believers, and are more effective in spreading the gospel.

Course Description

In this course we will give attention to three different groups of spiritual gifts. We will call them (1) Gifts of Ministry, (2) Other Ministry Gifts, and (3) Gifts of the Spirit.

The first group—Gifts of Ministry—includes those believers who Christ gives to the church to be its leaders.

In the second group—Other Ministry Gifts—we will study gifts which are available to all believers.

And in the final group—Gifts of the Spirit—we will learn about nine gifts which the Holy Spirit gives to believers as He wills.

Course Objectives

When you finish this course you should be able to:

1. Describe the importance of the individual believer in the church as a channel for spiritual gifts.
2. Understand the function and purpose of the various kinds of spiritual gifts.
3. Contrast the constructive work of the Holy Spirit with the destructive work of evil spirits.

4. Recognize and appreciate the diversity of spiritual gifts in the body of Christ.
5. Explain the difference between spiritual gifts and natural talents.
6. Discover, experience, and pursue the development of spiritual gifts in your ministry.
7. Value gifts of the Spirit as vital to Christian life and ministry.
8. Identify and solve problems relating to the operation of spiritual gifts.

Textbooks

You will use *Spiritual Gifts: An Independent Study Textbook* by R. L. Brandt, as both the textbook and study guide for the course. *Today's English Version* and the *King James Version* of the Bible are the only other requirements.

Study Time

How much time you actually need to study each lesson depends in part on your knowledge of the subject and the strength of your study skills before you begin the course. The time you spend also depends on the extent to which you follow directions and develop skills necessary for independent study. Plan your study schedule so that you spend enough time to reach the objectives stated by the author of the course and your personal objectives as well.

Lesson Organization and Study Pattern

Each lesson includes: 1) lesson title, 2) opening statement, 3) lesson outline, 4) lesson objectives, 5) learning activities, 6) key words, 7) lesson development including study questions, 8) self-test (at the end of the lesson development), 9) answers to the study questions. Answers to each self-test are at the back of your textbook before the unit student reports.

The lesson outline and objectives will give you an overview of the subject, help you to focus your attention on the most important points as you study, and tell you what you should learn.

Most of the study questions in the lesson development can be answered in spaces provided in this study guide. Longer answers should be written in a notebook. As you write the answers in your notebook, be sure to record the number and title of the lesson. This will help you in your review for the unit student report.

Do not look ahead at the answers until you have given your answer. If you give your own answers, you will remember what you study much better. After you have answered the study questions, check your answers with those given at the end of the lesson. Then correct those you did not answer correctly. The answers are not given in the usual numerical order so that you will not accidentally see the answer to the next question.

These study questions are very important. They will help you to remember the main ideas presented in the lesson and to apply the principles you have learned.

How to Answer Questions

There are different kinds of study questions and self-test questions in this study guide. Below are samples of several types and how to answer them. Specific instructions will be given for other types of questions that may occur.

A **MULTIPLE-CHOICE** question or item asks you to choose an answer from the ones that are given.

- 1** The Bible has a total of
- a)** 100 books.
 - b)** 66 books.
 - c)** 27 books.

The correct answer is *b) 66 books*. In your study guide, make a circle around *b)* as shown here:

1 The Bible has a total of

- a)** 100 books.
- (b)** 66 books.
- c)** 27 books.
- d)** 2 books.

(For some multiple-choice items, more than one answer will be correct. In that case, you would circle the letter in front of each correct answer.)

A *TRUE-FALSE* question or item asks you to choose which of several statements are TRUE.

Example

2 Which statements below are TRUE?

- a)** The Bible has a total of 120 books.
- (b)** The Bible is a message for believers today.
- c)** All of the Bible authors wrote in the Hebrew language.
- (d)** The Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Bible.

Statements **b** and **d** are true. You would make a circle around these two letters to show your choices, as you see above.

A *MATCHING* question or item asks you to match things that go together, such *as* names with descriptions, or Bible books with their authors.

Example

3 Write the number for the leader's name in front of each phrase that describes something he did.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1 a Received the Law at Mt. Sinai | 1) Moses |
| 2 b Led the Israelites across Jordan | 2) Joshua |
| 2 c Marched around Jericho | |
| 1 d Lived in Pharaoh's court | |

Phrases **a** and **d** refer to Moses, and phrases **b** and **c** refer to Joshua. You would write **1** beside **a** and **d**, and **2** beside **b** and **c**, as you see above.

Ways to Study This Course

If you study this GU course by yourself, all of your work can be completed by mail. Although GU has designed this course for you to study on your own, you may also study it in a group or class. If you do this, the instructor may give you added instructions besides those in the course. If so, be sure to follow his instructions.

Possibly you are interested in using the course in a home Bible study group, in a class at church, or in a Bible school. You will find both the subject content and study methods excellent for these purposes

Unit Student Reports

In the back of your study guide are located the unit student reports and answer sheets. These are to be completed according to the instructions included in the course and in the unit student reports. You should complete and send each unit answer sheet to your instructor for his grading and suggestions regarding your work. Send one when you complete each unit.

Certificate

Upon the successful completion of the course and the final grading of the unit answer sheets by your GU instructor, you will receive your Certificate of Award.

About the Author

Robert L. Brandt was ordained in 1940 and was an Executive Presbyterian of the General Council of the Assemblies of God. He served as a pastor for 16 years, was Superintendent of the North Dakota District, and later, was Superintendent of the Montana District. He served as the National Home Missions Secretary for the Fellowship and on the Board of Directors for Northwest College of the Assemblies of God. He was also a member of the Foreign Missions Board for the General Council of the Assemblies of God and served on its Doctrinal Purity Commission.

In addition to teaching and preaching widely, R. L. Brandt wrote for the Pentecostal Evangel, Sunday School quarterlies, Enrichment Magazine, and other publications for the Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Missouri. He authored several books including, *Praying With Paul*, *One Way*, *Gifts for the Marketplace*, *Tongues the Greatest Gift?* and *The Spirit Helps Us Pray*.

R. L. Brandt graduated from North Central University, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and was awarded an honorary doctors degree by Northwest College, Kirkland, Washington. He ministered at camp meetings, ministers' institutes, and district councils throughout the United States and other countries.

Your GU instructor

Your GU instructor will be happy to help you in any way possible. If you have any questions about the course or the unit student reports, please feel free to ask him. If several people want to study this course together, ask about special arrangements for group study.

God bless you as you study *Starting New Churches*. May it enrich your life and Christian service and help you fulfill more effectively your part in the body of Christ.



UNIT ONE:

INTRODUCING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Lessons

- 1 God Has Gifts for You
- 2 God Wants You to Know About His Gifts