

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

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**Spiritual gifts are special abilities and capacities given to every Christian to:**

1/ Accomplish specific works of service within the body of Christ, for the common good of fellow believers.

2/ Be empowered to take the Gospel to the world.

3/ Be active in the extending of God's Kingdom reign on earth.

**Spiritual gifts are:**

- Given as gifts of God's grace and never as rewards for human effort or performance.
- Distributed to believers as the Spirit determines but are also to be eagerly desired.
- To be exercised by faith and with intentionality.
- Designed to be anchored in, motivated by and saturated in the others-focussed love at the very centre of who our Triune God is.

The following list is not exhaustive and is a combination of 1 Corinthians 12 (*gifts of the Spirit*), Romans 12 (*motivational gifts*), Ephesians 4 (*ascension gifts*) and 1 Peter 4.

## SIGN / REVELATORY GIFTS

- **Prophecy** – The Greek word for the gift of prophecy is *propheteia* which is the ability to receive a divinely inspired message and deliver it to others. The message should primarily strengthen, encourage and/or bring comfort. Prophecy is a revelatory gift and a communication gift.
- **Healing** – Being a conduit of God's love to release physical healing.
- **Faith** – Extraordinary confidence in the will and purposes of God for a particular outcome, season or activity.
- **Tongues** – A prayer or a message glorifying God, typically spoken to God, in a language that is unknown to the one speaking it. This gift is to glorify God and edify/build the speaker, and at times with an interpreter, to edify/build the church.
- **Interpretation of Tongues** – A Spirit lead interpretation of a tongue spoken, making it understandable to other hearers. Tongues and interpretation united together become in essence a prophetic word.
- **Discernment** – The Greek word for the gift of discernment is *diakrisis*. The word describes being able to distinguish, discern, judge or appraise a person, statement, situation, environment or spiritual force.
- **Intercession** – An ability to pray longer, more intently, and with a greater degree of tangible answers than others.
- **Knowledge** – An ability to discover, accumulate, analyze, and clarify information and ideas.
- **Miracles** – Changing of the natural course of things.
- **Ekballism / exorcism** – The casting out of demonic spiritual forces.

## COMMUNICATION GIFTS

- **Exhortation** – From the Greek word *parakaleo* from which we also understand the Holy Spirit as our Paraclete. Exhortation mirrors the work of the Holy Spirit in peoples lives. It means to exhort, call up, to encourage and to strengthen. The primary means of exhortation is to remind hearers of the powerful and all sufficient work of God in Christ. Exhorters come alongside and are often orientated towards problem solving.
- **Teaching** – The word *didasko* means to teach, instruct, instil doctrine, explain, and expound. Those with the spiritual gift of teaching typically love to study and exegete the Word of God.
- **Evangelism** – The ability to share the good news of Jesus with authority, power and effectiveness.

## LEADERSHIP GIFTS

- **Leadership** – An ability to see with eyes of faith and then set a God inspired vision before others. One facet of strength is directing and admonishing, while another facet of strength is protecting and caring.
- **Apostle** – Is empowered to take territory, establish new churches and/or ministries, raise up and develop leaders, take the Gospel to new places or release it in new ways.
- **Pastor** – A shepherd or overseer who offers guidance, protection, care and nourishing towards maturity. Pastors also equip God’s people for works of service.
- **Administration** – From the unique Greek word *kubernesis* that refers to a shipmaster or captain. The literal meaning is “to steer,” or “to rule or govern.” Someone often task oriented, who guides and directs toward a goal or destination.

## PRACTICAL GIFTS

- **Wisdom** – Receiving supernatural wisdom that transcends worldly wisdom, to proclaim the Gospel, solve problems, know how to act in different situations and understand God’s Word and ways.
- **Giving** – An ability to contribute personal resources with liberality and cheerfulness.
- **Helps / service** – A capacity to invest talents and abilities into others in such a way as to enable them to increase their effectiveness. A special ability to find unmet needs and to make use of resources available to meet those needs.
- **Hospitality** – An ability to make someone or a group of people feel seen, comfortable, welcome and “at home.”
- **Mercy** – An ability to feel greater empathy and compassion for suffering people, and to translate that into meaningful deeds leading to healing.