

Spiritual Gifts

Observations on Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gift "A special attribute given by the Spirit to every member of the body according to God's grace for use within the context of the body." (Wagner)

Every Christian has a gift. (I Corinthians 12:4-31)

- I Corinthians 12:7 - Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.
- Romans 12:5, 6 - So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.
- 1 Peter 4:10 - Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Each gift is designed to perfect the body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:7)

Not primarily for me!

- Ephesians 4:12 - for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.
- Ephesians 4:16 - from whom the body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.
- 1 Peter 4:10-11 - As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold God. If anyone speaks let him speak as the oracles of God.

God is the giver of gifts as He wills

- **1 Corinthians 12:11** - All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.
- **1 Corinthians 12:18** - But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.



Spiritual gifts used are a basis for joy and fulfillment

CHARISMA	-	GIFT
CHARIS	-	GRACE
CHARA	-	JOY

Wilder, E. James, *Joy Starts Here* (Holland, MI: Joy Starts Here, 2013, 2014) joystartsnere.com

Grace PowerPoint Presentation

ROMANS 12:6-8 - We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

Understanding GRACE is essential to understanding GIFTS

GRACE – God-given desire and power to do His will. 1 Corinthians 15:10. It is also the initiatory act of God in grace, which secures the believers eternal salvation, but also that which maintains it throughout the entirety (power) of the Christian life. (See also 1 Peter 4:10; James: 4:6) But He gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 2 Corinthians. 12:9- "And He has said to me my grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness."

Also 1 Corinthians. 15:10. - But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them- yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

Grace is the motivation. Romans 12:6

We have one Motivational/Redemptive Gift. We may have other ministry or manifestation Gifts

- 1 Peter 4:10 - A (singular) gift
- Romans 12:4,5 - Gifts compared to members of a body. (One function)
- Romans 12:3-8 - Command to concentrate on our gift. Grace (Singular) given to me.

There are three varieties or categories of gifts

- 1 Corinthians 12:7
 - There are different kinds of gifts, but the same **Spirit**.
 - There are different kinds of service, but the same **Lord**.
 - There are different kinds of working, but the same **God** works all of them in all men.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:4 - Varieties of Gifts - Charisma



- 1 Corinthians 12:5 - Varieties of Ministries - diakonia “the office and work of a *diakonos*” (see MINISTER, A, No. 1), “service, ministry,”¹
- 1 Corinthians 12:6 - Varieties of Effects - energma “to be at work,” “to act or start to act,” and trans. “to set at work,” “to effect.” ἐνέργημα means “what is effected,” the “act” or “action.” ἐνεργής (from the time of Aristotle) means “active.”²
- Note: Some other gifts: celibacy (I Corinthians 7:7), Hospitality (I Peter 4:9, I Corinthians 13:3), Intercessor, Exorcism, voluntary poverty, Martyrdom

Gifts of the Father

Romans 12:4-8 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.³

Gifts of Jesus the Son

Ephesians 4:11-12 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ⁴

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

I Corinthians 12:1-11 Now concerning spiritual *gifts*, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: ²You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*: ⁸for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.⁵

Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). In [Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words](#) (Vol. 2, p. 411). T. Nelson.

Bertram, G. (1964—). [ἔργον, ἐργάζομαι, ἐργάτης, ἐργασία, ἐνεργής, ἐνέργεια, ἐνεργέω, ἐνέργημα, εὐεργεσία, εὐεργετέω, εὐεργέτης](#). In G. Kittel, G. W. Bromiley, & G. Friedrich (Eds.), *Theological dictionary of the New Testament* (electronic ed., Vol. 2, p. 652). Eerdmans.

³ [The New King James Version](#) (Ro 12:4–8). (1982). Thomas Nelson.

⁴ [The New King James Version](#) (Eph 4:11–12). (1982). Thomas Nelson.

⁵ [The New King James Version](#) (1 Co 12:1–11). (1982). Thomas Nelson.



Every Christian is admonished to do all 7 Redemptive/motivational gifts as activities.

- We won't do them as well as someone with that gift.
- We can learn how to do them better from someone with that gift.
- We are not released from these activities because we do not have a certain gift.
- We may function better in a particular gift when we are near a person with that gift
- Examples of everyone's involvement in all seven motivational gifts.
 - Prophecy: 1 Corinthians. 14:1
 - Serve Colossians 3:23, 24
 - Teach: Matthew .28:20
 - Exhort (encourage): Hebrews 3:13
 - Give: Luke 6:38
 - Administrate 1 Timothy 3:4, 5
 - Mercy: Colossians 3:12

There are definite HINDRANCES to discovering your gift. All sin keeps us from knowing ourselves and being what God wants us to be. Romans 3:23.

- Bitterness: Hebrews 12:15
- Temporal values: 1 Corinthians. 10:1-13 (key vs. 6&7)
- Moral Impurity: 1 Tim. 3:1-10
- Irresponsibility: Luke. 12:48

% of the population with Motivational gifts

Prophet	12 %
Server	17 %
Teacher	6 %
Exhorter	16 %
Giver	6 %
Administrator	13 %
Mercy	30 %

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS - THE BODY OF CHRIST

Prophet	- The Eye of the Body
Server	- The Hands of the Body
Teacher	- The Mind of the Body
Exhorter	- The Mouth of the Body



Giver - The Arms of the Body
Administrator - The shoulders of the Body
Mercy - The Heart of the Body

Here Some Questions

- **When do you receive a gift and how long do you keep a gift?** Scripture is not clear about when gifts are received. There is some empirical evidence that gifts are received at conception or at birth and perhaps activated at salvation or even later.
- **Can Satan counterfeit the gifts?** Satan can only counterfeit the gifts. There is a danger of seeing the gifts counterfeited and then not believing in the gifts because one sees the enemy using them.
- **How do you discover your spiritual gifts?**

Explore the possibilities.
Experiment with as many as you can.
Examine your feelings.
Evaluate your effectiveness.
Expect confirmation from the body.

NOTE: Diversity, not uniformity, is essential for a healthy church.

1 Corinthians 12: 4- 31

What is more important – the gift or character?

A CHRIST-LIKE Character

God has given gifts to His Church. Yet His greatest priority for us is that each one of us be conformed to the “image” (character, moral and spiritual likeness) of Christ (Romans 8:28, 29; 12:1,2; 2 Corinthians 3:18).

Too often, in the Body of Christ, believers (including leaders) pursue the exercise of their gifts (charismata) without regard to the development of character. It must be said, however, that from God’s perspective, No gift can replace a Christ-like character.

If we have a Christ-like character, we will discover that the spiritual gifts function better. They will also bear more fruit in the lives of others, because there is a greater anointing on our lives.



A LIFELONG PURSUIT

How can we grow in Christ-like character, having balance, integrity, and the fruit of the Spirit? Here are some simple suggestions to start with:

1. Submit your heart to God and other Christians;
2. Develop a humble, teachable spirit;
3. Pursue the development of the fruit of the Spirit in your life (Gal 5:16-26);
4. Study the Word continually, always applying it to your personal life;
5. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal the “fleshly” attitudes in your own heart.

Exercise of the Spiritual Gifts

Have Humility

Pride says, “I am the source.” Humility says God is the source.

Avoid Competitive Behavior

Avoid coveting other's gifts Proverbs 4:23

