

2 Peter 3:18 *“But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.”*

3. Involve yourself in opportunities to serve.

1 Corinthians 15:58 *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”*

4. Be thoughtful and thankful for your fellow Christians.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 *“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.”*

5. Familiarize yourself with the spiritual gifts.

Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:6-8, Ephesians 4:11

6. Evaluate the fulfillment you receive by contributing to the body of Christ.

1 Thessalonians 2:11-12 *“As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father doth his children, That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory.”*

7. Consider the confirmation received by others.

Proverbs 18:16 *“A man’s gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.”*



**Notes:**

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# FOUNDATIONS OF MY FAITH SERIES

## LESSON 20: SPIRITUAL GIFTS

# Spiritual Gifts

## What is a spiritual gift?

1. A divine empowerment from God's Spirit which enables me to serve God through the local church in a special and specific way.  
I Corinthians 12:7 "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal."  
I Peter 4:10 "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."
2. A spiritual gift, just as salvation, is freely given and cannot be earned.  
I Corinthians 2:12 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."

## What are the purposes for the spiritual gifts?

1. To bring glory to God by helping individual people.
  - A. By fulfilling my God-given purpose in the church.  
I Corinthians 12:18 "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him."
  - B. By assisting other members of the church.  
I Corinthians 12:25 "...but that the members should have the same care one for another."
  - C. By cooperating with other church members who have different spiritual gifts.  
I Corinthians 12:26 "And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it."
2. To bring glory to God by helping guide the church itself.  
Ephesians 4:11-12 "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:"  
With the church in mind, God gave these gifts to the church for:
  - A. The perfecting (maturing) of the saints.
  - B. The work of the ministry (service).
  - C. The edifying (building) of the church.

## Who decides what gifts I get?

1. The Father is the source of all gifts.  
James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."
2. The Spirit of God chooses what spiritual gifts are best for each believer.  
I Corinthians 12:11 "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

## What are the seven practical spiritual gifts?

Romans 12:6-8 "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering; or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness."

1. Prophecy  
**Description:** the gift of emphasizing and proclaiming God's pure truth to people  
**Benefit in church:** keeps an emphasis on soul winning and purity.  
**Bible Example:** Peter
2. Ministering  
**Description:** the gift to identify and practically help others by willing service.  
**Benefit in church:** encourages a spirit of involvement.  
**Bible Example:** Timothy
3. Teaching  
**Description:** the gift to effectively research and/or communicate the truths of the Bible to others.  
**Benefit in church:** provides meaningful and useful resources.  
**Bible Example:** Luke
4. Exhortation  
**Description:** the gift to identify root problems, straighten, and strengthen others to a place of spiritual maturity.  
**Benefit in church:** helps people through difficult times using Scripture as their guide.  
**Bible Example:** Paul
5. Giving  
**Description:** the gift to conserve and share resources in order to meet material needs.  
**Benefit in church:** finding resources and using them for eternal purposes.  
**Bible Example:** Matthew
6. Ruling  
**Description:** the gift to guide and direct a group of people toward a goal or destination.  
**Benefit in church:** growth and completion of projects.  
**Bible Example:** Nehemiah
7. Mercy  
**Description:** the gift to recognize, identify with, and comfort those who are hurting.  
**Benefit in church:** unity within the church and a compassionate spirit.  
**Bible Example:** John

## How do I find and use my spiritual gifts?

1. Seek the filling of the Holy Spirit.  
Ephesians 5:18 "And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
2. Grow in grace.