

# Discovering How to Serve

Better Understanding of The Spiritual Gifts

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*Serving the Body  
of Christ*

*Spiritual Gifts are ministry tools enabling the believer to serve the Body of Christ.*

“Being out of control is never the Christian’s use of his/her gift . . . . The Spirit of God does not operate the gifts of the Spirit when people are out of control. This was Paul’s point in 1 Corinthians 14.”

JOHN MACARTHUR; GTY; 2007

## ***The Gifts of the Spirit***

AKA – Spiritual Gifts. Sought by some and shunned by others. 16 gifts bestowed on the church to enhance ministry to the body of Christ as well as the world we are to reach. 16 spiritual gifts intended for our individual exercise as believers to reach each person on every path, every conversation, and through every encounter. The purpose of this living document is to provide a synopsis of each gift listed in scripture, the scriptures themselves so that you can discover what

**.... so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.**

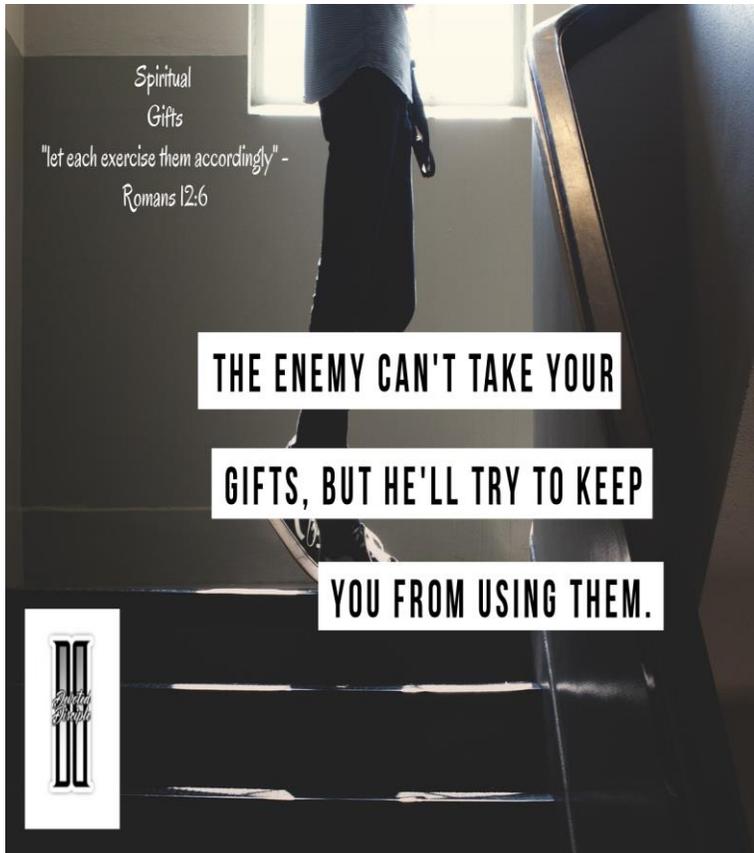
**And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us each exercise them accordingly."**

**Romans 12:5-6**

**Spiritual Gifts**

each is and discuss with your facilitator each gift. I love John Mac Arthur's introduction to this subject. "Jesus has made it clear that we who know God are salt and light in the world (Mt. 5:13-14). The Scripture also calls us ambassadors to the world (2 Cor. 5:20) and pilgrims in the world (1 Pet. 2:11). Paul told the Philippians that our citizenship is not here but in heaven (Phil. 3:20). And, we are sojourners in the world (1 Pet. 1:17). So, there is a purpose for our individual existence as believers in the society in which we live -- to turn men to God through Christ. We are a witnessing community -- a group of people placed in the world to draw the attention of the world to God."<sup>i</sup>

So, let's look at a synopsis of the 16 gifts, then there will be a list of scripture for you to study and research. Each synopsis comes from a compilation of resources which will be listed at the end of this tool.



### Leadership

To exhibit the gift of leadership is for one to be a 'guide'. It carries the idea of one who steers a ship. One who exhibits this gift rules serves with wisdom and grace, showing the fruit of the Spirit in his/her life as he/she leads by example.

### Administration

Also known by the title of Organization. This person manages projects and is known for their efficiency. They organize information, money, people, resources, and more.<sup>ii</sup> It is

important to remember to not be so involved with how things get done that people are forgotten.

### Teaching

Involved in this gift is the declaration of God's Word, requiring the study of scripture prior to teaching. The ability to clearly instruct and communicate biblical knowledge assist the believer in the doctrines of faith.

### Knowledge

The ability a believer would have to know supernaturally something about a situation or person. Of the four scriptures that speak of this gift it is neither defined nor explained in any of these places. Two specific definitions help understand this gift. 1} The gift was given for the early church for the specific purpose of

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communicating divine revelation. 2} God giving divine knowledge and insight into certain situations. It is linked to apostles and prophets yet believed to no longer be needed for the church today.

### Wisdom

One of the speaking gifts describing someone with the ability to understand and speak Biblical truth skillfully. Often described as the 'word of wisdom', granting the person the ability to apply truth to life situations with all discernment.



### Prophecy

The gift of 'a speaking forth' or dialogue originating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God. The gift of Prophecy deals with reproofing and admonishing the wicked, comforting the afflicted; or revealing things hidden. To prophesy is to announce the divine will, to explain God's purposes, of making known the truth of God to sway people.

### Discernment

### Shepherding

### Faith

### Evangelism

### Apostleship

### Service/Helps

### Mercy

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**Giving**

**Hospitality**

**Exhortation**

**Scripture Background for Each Spiritual Gift**

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<sup>i</sup> John MacArthur; Grace To You; “The Importance of Spiritual Gifts – Spiritual Gifts”; 1 Corinthians 12:1-3; GTY; 2007

<sup>ii</sup> Kelli Mahoney; Learn Religions; “What is the Spiritual Gift of Administration”; March 6, 2017