

Gifts of the Holy Spirit listed

Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Peter 4:10,11

Gifts and the Body

Every redeemed person is given at least one gift by the Holy Spirit

“Now there are varieties of gifts, . . . But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (1 Cor. 12:4,7)

The church is like our physical bodies, where each member has a unique function yet all parts work together. (1 Cor. 12:14-21)

Each member of the body is unique – each gift is unique

The Meaning of Charisma (Charismata, pl)

“gift of holy grace” – “manifestations of grace” – “gifts”

Not to be confused with the worldly sense of a charismatic personality

The Origin of Spiritual Gifts

These gifts come to us from the Holy Spirit

He chooses who gets which gifts

He dispense them at His good pleasure

Sin – have the gift and do not use it

Sin – want other gifts

Spiritual Gifts and Talents

Spiritual Gift – Supernatural gifts the Spirit gives a person for the good of the Church

Natural Talent – natural ability

God can take a talent and transform it by the power of the Holy Spirit and use it as a spiritual gift

Purpose of Gifts

“for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:12)

Every believer will someday have to stand before the judgment seat of Christ to give an account of how faithfully he used his gifts, as well as his personal life before God

“bema” or judgment seat of Christ for believers

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Cor. 3:10).

Result is reward or loss (1 Cor. 3:11-15)

“but he himself [the believer shall be saved.]”

The Great White Throne judgment – for the unbelievers

Emphasis for the gifts to be used “for the common good” (1 Cor. 12:7)

Philippians 2:3,4 Ephesians 4:3-7

The gifts of the Spirit should never divide the body of Christ; they should unify it.

How to Recognize our Gift

- 1) realize that God has given you at least one spiritual gift
- 2) use careful and thoughtful prayer for the discovery of our spiritual gifts
- 3) have an intelligent understanding of what the Bible says about spiritual gifts
- 4) should have a knowledge of yourself and your abilities

Ephesians 4:11 (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher)

Apostle – “one sent with a commission”

John Stott – 1) all of us are apostles in the general sense (Jn. 17:18; 20:21)
2) messengers on particular errands (2 Cor. 8:23; Phil. 2:25)
3) “apostles of Christ” – the Twelve (Lk 6:12,13; Gal 1:1)
secondary sense of the word today applied to missionaries or church planters

Prophet – “public expounder”

- 1) Apostolic – supernatural gift of communication of words from God to men
Graham’s opinion - no longer exists as before – rare – God no longer reveals “new truth” – the canon of Scripture is closed
- 2) the edification, instruction, consolation, and exhortation of believers in local congregations – work of Holy Spirit to illumine those called to this office with a depth impossible to those who do not have this gift
- 3) need the gift of “discerning the spirits” to discern false and true
true test of prophecy is 100% accuracy

Evangelist – “one who announces good news”

NT – 3 times – 1) Luke called Philip an evangelist (Acts 21:8)
2) Paul said God gave evangelists to the churches (Eph 4:11)
3) Paul urged Timothy to “do the work of an evangelist” (2 Tim 4:5)

A special ability in communicating the gospel – the “good news” of Jesus Christ
True evangelism speaks to the intellect and may or may not produce emotion, but its main job is to speak to the will.

Not to seek results

Not limited to professional but also given to lay people

Cannot convict or convert anyone – work of Holy Spirit

Pastor – OT idea of shepherd (Eph 4:11)

If Jesus is the chief shepherd, then there must be assistant shepherds

1,2 Timothy and Titus – pastoral epistles – tell the shepherds how to watch over flocks

Teacher – “instructor” – teaching is simply a Spirit-given ability to build into the lives of Christians a knowledge of God’s Word and its application to their thinking and conduct

Goal is that of conformity of Christians to the likeness of Jesus.

Ephesians 4 suggests such a close connection between the gift of pastor and teacher that the words could almost be translated “pastor-teacher as if it were one gift

Spiritual teaching, like all spiritual gifts, is a supernatural ability the Holy Spirit gives

Used in all kinds of contexts – seminary – Bible college – SS class – Bible Study