

Gifts of the Holy Spirit – listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 except Sign Gifts

Supernatural gifts from God

Gift of the word of wisdom

We all have some spiritual wisdom but this is extra

Natural wisdom vs educated wisdom vs spiritual wisdom

The gift is “the ability to make correct decisions on the basis of one’s knowledge

- supernatural wisdom – to understand the whole situation without asking for specifics (PR)
- based on one’s understanding of Scripture (PR)
- shows us how to use knowledge – (Mark 13:11)

Gift of the word of knowledge

Acquaintance with spiritual information - specifics

To have knowledge of specifics without prior knowledge – supernatural (PR)

Gift of Faith

Gk “faithfulness or steadfastness”

Grace of faith – we can believe God will do whatever He has promised to do in

His Word - all Christians have the grace of faith

Gift of faith – to believe for things about which the Bible is silent

Make decision on the basis of the will of God and be given faith by the Spirit to do what God wants us to do regardless of the consequences

No doubts (PR)

1957 New York Crusade (p. 194) – LaGrange UMC New Life Center

Gift of Discernment of Spirits

Gk “to see, consider, examine, understand, hear, judge closely”

“the distinguishing of spirits” (NASB)

Satan – angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14,15) – demons disguise as servants

False teachings – doctrines of demons (1 Tim. 4:1)

Spiritism, the occult, the worship of Satan

Test the spirits – (1 John 4:1-4) for all believers

Some individuals have extraordinary ability to discern the truth

Paul w/ Ananias and Sapphira, Simon of Samaria

Gift of Helps

Gk “idea of supporting or assisting.

Gift of showing mercy

(Acts 6) deacons appointed to take over the business affairs of the church

waiting on tables, distributing funds to the poor

idea of social service – assisting the oppressed who suffer from social injustice

caring for orphans, widows

helping in the church to enable others to do their jobs more freely (1 Peter 4:11)
Mark was the helper for Paul and Barnabas (Acts 12:25)
Extraordinary gift for seeing things to be done and do it (PR)

Gift of Governments (Administrations)

Gk “idea of steering, piloting, or directing” – gift of leadership

Scriptures teach that churches must have government requiring leadership

Jesus developed His Disciples

(Acts 14:23) Paul and Barnabas appointed elders

(1 Tim. 3:1-7) Paul gives qualifications for “bishops”.

(Heb 13:17) “Obey your leaders and submit to them”

Jesus Christ – role model of leadership

Humble, gracious, courteous, kind, filled with love, firm, servant

Mark 10:45 Phil. 2:7 John 13:16 Gal. 5:13

God provides for His Church

By His Spirit He has provided for the operation of the Church in history through the gifts of His Spirit

We are told to “earnestly desire the greater gifts” (1 Cor 12:31)

1) we should recognize the gift(s) God has given us

2) we should nurture those gifts, and do everything, humanly speaking, to improve them as we use them

Some day all of us will give account of the way we have used the gifts God has given to us

“Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matt. 25:21)