

Welcome: Share one good thing, one bad thing

Hymn: I the Lord of sea and sky

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcXOkht8w7c>

Opening prayer:

Let's set some ground rule we can all agree on:

- We are here to seek God's truth
- We are all learners here
- We are here to support and help each other

How did you find the reading? Did anything stand out of you?

No Spiritual Gifts in the Bible they are correctly called Gifts of the Spirit.

1Corinthians 12:8-12, 27-29	Romans 12:6-8	Ephesians 4:11	1Peter 4:8-10
Teaching gifts			
Apostles		Apostles	Speaking
Teachers, knowledge	Teaching	Teachers	
Prophets	Prophesying	Prophets	
		Evangelists	
Wisdom	Encouraging	Pastors	
Sign gifts			
Faith			
Gifts of healings			
Workings of miracles			
Distinguishing between spirits			
Diversity of languages			
Interpretation of languages			
Service gifts			
Administration	Leadership		
Those able to help others	Showing mercy		Love
	Serving		Serving
	Giving		Hospitality
Date: cAD55	Date: cAD56-57	Date: cAD60	Date: cAD63-6

Some light reading in preparation for our Bible Study

- Romans 12: 3-9
- Ephesians 4: 2-12

- 1 Corinthians. 12: 1-31
- 1 Peter 4: 10-11

1. What is a spiritual gift?

A spiritual gift is a God-given ability, distributed to individual Christians by the [Holy Spirit](#) that allows him/or her to work through their lives to help the church execute its mission on earth.

2. What is the difference between spiritual gifts and natural talents?

Natural talents are physical abilities to do special things. Some natural talents might be musical ability, carpentry, mechanical aptitude, and artistic skills. Spiritual gifts are spiritual abilities to do certain things. Natural talents are often the vehicle through which spiritual gifts can be used. For example, a Christian vocalist may have the spiritual gift of evangelism being expressed through the vehicle of musical talent. ([Psalm 139:13-14](#))

3. Are spiritual gifts the best sign of spirituality?

No! Christ-like maturity is primarily indicated by the manifestation of the Fruit of the Spirit, not by the presence of spiritual gifts ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)).

God may choose to shine forth in a spiritually immature baby Christian. However, that does not make the baby spiritual. A spiritual child may say excitedly, "I got the gift of tongues last night and now I'm spiritual!"

But, Jesus said: "For by their fruit you shall know them" ([Matthew 7:16](#)).

Satan can imitate and counterfeit spiritual gifts, but he is baffled in trying to imitate the Fruit of the Spirit.

4. Does every believer have a gift?

Yes! Every believer has at least one gift ([1 Corinthians 12:6-7](#), 11). All believers are to evaluate themselves in terms of their God-given gifts ([Romans 12:3](#))

5. How many gifts are there? What are they?

According to [1 Corinthians 12:8-10](#), 28-29; [Romans 12:3-8](#); [Ephesians 4:11](#); and [1 Corinthians 7:7](#), there are at least 22 spiritual gifts. They are as follows: Apostles; Prophets; Pastor-Teachers; Evangelists; Prophecy; Teaching; Wisdom; Knowledge; [Faith](#); Miraculous Powers; Healing; Distinguishing between Spirits; Speaking in Tongues; Interpretation of Tongues; Helps; Service; Administration; Encouragement; Giving; Leadership; Mercy and Celibacy.

6. When does the believer receive his/her gift?

There is no clear-cut Biblical teaching as to when the believer receives his/her gift. However, it seems that the gift comes with the Giver and is bestowed at conversion ([2 Timothy 1:6](#)).

7. Can a believer have any gift he or she wants?

No! ([1 Corinthians 12:29-31](#)). The [Holy Spirit](#) gives out gifts as he sees fit ([1 Corinthians 12:7](#), 8-9, 11). This is why there is no prescribed way to get a gift.

However, if we are faithful with the gift, or gifts, that the Holy Spirit has already given us, he invites us to pray for another ([1 Corinthians 12:29-31](#)).

8. Do spiritual gifts come ready to operate?

No! It often takes time for gifts to mature and develop into their full effectiveness. Spiritual gifts come "in the rough." Every believer is obligated to mature his/her gift. Each Christian should have an opportunity to use his/her gifts interdependently with others ([Romans 12:4-6](#)).

9. If a person doesn't have the gift of evangelism, is he/she excused from trying to win people to Christ?

Of course not! The absence of gifts does not take precedence over clear-cut biblical demands. For example, we are all commanded to be liberal in our giving. Just because a Believer does not have the gift of giving does not mean that he/she can say, "Never pass me the offering plate again. I don't need to tithe. I don't have the gift of giving." We are all commanded to share the gospel with others whether we have the gift of evangelism or not.

10. Can spiritual gifts be lost?

Yes! Gifts which are not used or developed can apparently be lost (like the appendix in the human body). Jesus' parable of the talents illustrates the danger of neglecting the gift that the [Holy Spirit](#) has bestowed. To do so means censorship and rebuke by the Master Himself ([Matthew 25:14-30](#)).

11. Are some gifts more important than others?

Yes! Prophecy is the most important. Speaking in tongues is the least. All the others fall somewhere in between ([1 Corinthians 12:31](#)). The relative value of spiritual gifts is to be tested by their usefulness to the church as a whole. Paul's wrote that due to the interdependent nature of all of the gifts, there should be no spiritual pride associated with any of these gifts.

A prophecy is a **message inspired by God, a divine revelation**. The Bible says that prophets "spoke from God as they were moved by holy spirit." (2 Peter 1:20, 21) So a prophet is one who receives God's message and transmits it to others.—Acts 3:18. God used several methods to transmit his thoughts to his prophets: Writing.

12. Can spiritual gifts be misused?

Yes! For example, Paul described the use and misuse of the gift of tongues in the Corinthian church ([1 Corinthians 14](#)). For example, Paul taught that [speaking in tongues](#) without someone in attendance with the gift of interpretation will only bring confusion to the church family and ridicule from unbelievers.

Conclusion:

- Exercised in love
- Used to build up God's people
- Not to be used for your benefit
- Given a chance to exercise your gifts

What did we each learn?

Prayer for each other: