

August 10, 2025

God's Good News Story: The Church Alive & Growing
The Book of 1 Corinthians – Part 11 Chapter 12
Spiritual Gifts – Power to Minister & Serve

Today we continue on our multi-year journey through the New Testament where we are seeking to understand the historical, chronological and missiological of the 1st Century Church so that we in the 21st Century Church can keep the 'CHURCH LIVE & GROWING'. As we have made our way through the Book of Acts we have stopped at various points to delve into other books of the New Testament that seem to have been written at that specific point in time. We just completed study of Acts 19 and it seems that at this point in the 30 plus year time span that the book of Acts covers, that Paul took the time to write to the Church in Corinth.

Paul **REMINDS** them of their **HIGH CALLING TO...**

1. Be Holy
2. Develop a Fellowship of Harmony & Love
3. Glorify God.
4. Have the Mind of Christ.
5. Be God's Sanctuary & Temple
6. Honor & Respect Faithful Spiritual Leaders
7. Live as Obedient 'Beloved Children' of our Heavenly Father.
8. Live Your Life With Integrity & Godliness.
9. Honor God in Our Relationships & Service
10. To Use Your Liberty In Christ in Loving Wisdom
11. To Make The Message of the Gospel a Priority Over Our Freedom and Rights.
12. To Follow the Example of Christ in How We Treat Others.
13. To Honor Christ in the way we worship.
today in Chapter 12 we discover
14. **To Use Your Spiritual Gifts For the Good of the Church and to the Glory of God.**

1 Corinthians 12:1-31...¹ Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines. ¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵ Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not

for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all

interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way. (NIV)

3 Gifts We Are Given When We Trust Christ

(1) The Holy Spirit

(2) Eternal Life

(3) Special Abilities - This is what we call Spiritual Gifts or Gifts of the Spirit,

There is a difference between Gifts of the Spirit and Fruit of the Spirit. Paul speaks about the Fruit in **Galatians 5:22-25...** ²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.*

Spiritual Fruit shows your maturity in Christ. Spiritual gifts shows your ministry for Christ.

SPIRITUAL GIFT: Is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ to the glory of God the Father.

Purpose of Spiritual Gifts:

- Give guidance to God's plan for your life (1 Pet. 4:11)
- For the common good (1 Cor. 12:7)
- That the church be edified (1 Cor. 14:5)
- To serve others (I Peter 4:10)
- To do works of service (Eph. 4:12)
- To bring unity, maturity and stability (Eph. 4:13-14)

A Sample List of Spiritual Gifts:

1. Wisdom
2. Knowledge
3. Faith
4. Healing
5. Miracles
6. Prophecy/Proclamation
7. Discernment
8. Tongues
9. Interpretation
10. Apostles
11. Teachers
12. Helps/Service
13. Administration
14. Exhortation/Encouragement
15. Giving
16. Leadership
17. Mercy
18. Evangelism
19. Pastor/Shepherding
20. Hospitality
21. Craftsmanship
22. Intercession
23. Creative Arts

Non-traditional gift options: Celibacy, Exorcism, Martyrdom, Missionary, Voluntary Poverty

A Life Changing Truth

My Primary Identity: A Minister of Jesus Christ!

➤ **Spiritual Gifts – Ministry Priority**

1. **YOU'VE BEEN CREATED FOR MINISTRY!**
2. **YOU'VE BEEN SAVED FOR MINISTRY!**
3. **YOU'VE BEEN CALLED INTO MINISTRY!**
4. **YOU'VE BEEN GIFTED FOR MINISTRY!**
5. **YOU'VE BEEN AUTHORIZED FOR MINISTRY!**
6. **YOU'RE COMMANDED TO MINISTRY!**
7. **YOU'RE TO BE PREPARED FOR MINISTRY!**

8. **THE BODY OF CHRIST NEEDS YOUR MINISTRY!**
9. **YOU'RE ACCOUNTABLE FOR YOUR MINISTRY!**
10. **YOU WILL BE REWARDED FOR YOUR MINISTRY!**

SPIRITUAL GIFT:

Is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ to the glory of God the Father.

Now about spiritual gifts I do not want you to be ignorant."
1 Cor. 12:1

It is evident that God wants us to be aware of these grace gifts of service. It is our task to become aware of them, develop them and use them faithfully in serving God and ministering to others.

How do you discover the gift God has given you through faith?

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/articles/sermon-unwrapping-your-spiritual-gift-1-corinthians-12>

1. Spend time praying to the One who gave you the gift.
2. Study the Bible.
3. Ask those who know you well.
4. Serve!

Take-Away – God has given every believer a grace gift of His Spirit. Our task is to develop them and use them for His glory and for the good of the Church. Are you serving and ministering in the power of your Spiritual Gifts?