

# Spiritual Gifts in The New Testament

We have a promise as God's redeemed children that each of us is given a Spiritual Gift or Gifts. These Gifts given by the Holy Spirit to individual Christians, in the context of Christian community. Spiritual Gifts are given to be used for the good of the church (God's people), to fight evil and to advance the mission of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Miraculous or Sign Gifts

These are gifts that showcase the power of God in special ways not only to believers but to the non-believing world.

- **Tongues** 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28, 30  
The special gift whereby the Spirit gifts individuals to speak about God to others, or too God in a language they have never learned or studied.
- **Interpretation** 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30  
The gift of translating words spoken in tongues for the church to be blessed by the message.
- **Miracles** 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28  
The gift from God to perform amazing acts that show the power of God over nature.
- **Healing** 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28  
The God-given an ability to restore health to the sick through prayer.

## Enabling Gifts

These are gifts that are more like inner qualities or characteristics, which enable a person to connect with God in ways that empower them to take a stand for the Lord in special ways.

- **Faith** 1 Corinthians 12:9  
The gift of unusual trust in God's promises, power and love which enables one to stand boldly in the face of adversity with confidence in God's will.
- **Discernment** 1 Corinthians 12:10  
The ability to distinguish between the things that are of God and the things that are of this world or of Satan and spiritual evil.
- **Wisdom** 1 Corinthians 12:8  
The Holy Spirit enabled ability to help others to understand God's will in Christian living and decision making.
- **Knowledge** 1 Corinthians 12:8  
A special ability to understand the truth of God's Word and bring it to bear in relevant ways to specific situations.

## Team Gifts

These are gifts that are more activity, ministry or task-oriented. They are functional, and are generally used serving with others within a team or church setting. The Team Gifts are divided into two prominent types, speaking and ministering gifts. Another category some use is "Special People" gifts, which differentiates the idea of certain offices or positions a person may hold – Apostles, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers. While the Bible refers to these positions, there are certain gifts attached and that are given to individuals who do not hold these official positions.

- **Apostle** 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11  
Special gift of being sent out by God, and being empowered to lead, inspire and develop new Churches founded on the Gospel of Jesus and the Word of God. Most theologians believe this was a special office reserved for the beginning of the Christian Church, but no longer exists today. Yet associated gifts are still given to individuals.
- **Evangelist/Evangelism:** Ephesians 4:11  
The gift of passionately leading others to the saving knowledge of Christ, through the sharing of the Gospel and truth of God's Word.
- **Teacher/Teaching:** Romans 12:7; 1 Corinthians 12:28  
The ability to make clear the truth of God's Word with simplicity & accuracy, so that others might learn.
- **Pastor/Shepherding:** Ephesians 4:11 The ability to take on the spiritual care and oversight of individuals, and groups of people (church community) -- training, feeding, coaching/leading.
- **Prophecy:** Romans 12:6; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28  
The ability and desire to boldly and fearlessly proclaim God's truth to others. Prophecy is not about telling the future, but about proclaiming God's Word.
- **Exhortation/Encouragement:** Romans 12:8;  
The ability to come alongside others, offering application of God's truth, helping to identify next steps, motivating towards change or action.
- **Serving/Helping:** Romans 12:7; 1 Corinthians 12:28  
The ability to joyfully work behind the scenes, to identify needs and provide practical help both physically and spiritually, so that others can do their work more efficiently.
- **Mercy-showing:** Romans 12:8  
Filled with an exceptional measure of love and compassion toward those who are suffering, or in need, and joyfully acting to bring relief.
- **Giving:** Romans 12:8  
A great desire and willingness to release material resources to bless others and further the work of the Church.
- **Hospitality:** 1 Timothy 3:2; 1 Peter 4:9  
A strong desire and willingness to make others feel welcome and cared for, often to the point of opening your home and sharing personal resources.
- **Administration:** Romans 12:8; 1 Corinthians 12:28  
A strong desire and ability for organizing, administering, promoting, leading, to benefit the ministry of the church.