

“The Gift I Received”

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers,
I do not want you to be ignorant.”

1 Corinthians 12:1 (NIV)

Introduction:

- God has given me a **gift**.
- The gifts I have are meant to **glorify** God, and serve the church **body**.

A. What is a spiritual gift?

- **God has given me something to fulfill His calling and purpose for my life.**
“God’s various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God’s Spirit. God’s various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God’s Spirit. God’s various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God Himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits...”
1 Corinthians 12:4-8 (The Message, emphasis added)
- **The Gift of Faith**
The God-given ability to act on God’s promises with confidence and unwavering belief in God’s ability to fulfill his purposes.
1 Corinthians 12:9, 13:2, Romans 4:19-21
- **The Gift of Leadership**
The God-given ability to cast vision, motivate, and direct people to harmoniously accomplish the purposes of God.
Romans 12:8, 1 Timothy 5:17, Hebrews 13:17
- **The Gift of Evangelism**
The God-given ability to effectively communicate the Gospel to nonbelievers so they respond in faith and move toward discipleship.
Ephesians 4:11, Acts 8:5-6, 14:21
- **The Gift of Knowledge**
The God-given ability to learn, analyze, and uncover insights from the Bible that are pertinent to the growth and well-being of the church.
1 Corinthians 12:8, 14:6, 2 Corinthians 11:6

- **The Gift of Administration**
The God-given ability to understand what makes an organization function and the special ability to plan and execute procedures that accomplish the goals of the group or organization.
1 Corinthians 12:28, Acts 6:1-7, Exodus 18:13-25
- **The Gift of Wisdom**
The God-given ability to apply spiritual truth effectively to meet a need in a specific situation.
1 Corinthians 12:8, 2:3-5, James 3:13-18
- **The Gift of Encouragement**
The God-given ability to present words of comfort, consolation, and encouragement so as to strengthen or urge to action those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith.
Romans 12:8, Acts 11:22-24, 15:30-32
- **The Gift of Teaching**
The God-given ability to understand, clearly explain, and apply the Word of God in such a way that it is clearly understood by others.
Romans 12:7, 1 Corinthians 12:28-29, Acts 18:24-28
- **The Gift of Prophecy**
The God-given ability to reveal God’s truth and proclaim it in a timely and relevant manner for understanding, correction, repentance, or edification.
Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28, 13:2
- **The Gift of Discernment**
The God-given ability to distinguish between truth and error. It is being able to discern the difference between good and evil, right and wrong, truth and deception.
1 Corinthians 12:10, Acts 5:1-4, Romans 9:1
- **The Gift of Shepherding**
The God-given ability to assume long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of an individual or small group of Christ-followers by nurturing and guiding them toward ongoing spiritual maturity.
Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 5:1-4, 1 Timothy 3:1-13
- **The Gift of Hospitality**
The God-given ability to care for people by providing friendly reception, food, and lodging.
1 Peter 4:9-10, Romans 12:13, Luke 10:38

- **The Gift of Mercy**
The God-given ability to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then demonstrate actions to meet those needs.
Romans 12:8, Mark 9:41, Matthew 25:34-40
- **The Gift of Giving**
The God-given ability to contribute money and resources to the work of the Lord with cheerfulness and generosity.
Romans 12:8, 2 Corinthians 6:8, Luke 21:1-4
- **The Gift of Intercession**
The God-given ability to consistently pray on behalf of and for others, seeing frequent and specific results.
Romans 8:26-27, Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13
- **The Gift of Helps**
The God-given ability to accomplish practical and necessary behind-the-scenes tasks, which frees up, supports, and meets the needs of others.
1 Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7, Acts 9:36

B. What about other gifts and talents?

- All gifts/talents/abilities are from God and may be **present** from birth and refined, or developed later in life.
- Gifts become spiritual when they are **empowered** by the Holy Spirit both in His work of salvation in our lives, and our surrender of those things to His service.

C. Why do we have gifts?

- A gift is a tool, a **conduit** of God’s glory and power.
- A gift is a **“facilitator”** or “enabler” that equips you to do things you normally could not do.
- The gift you have been given is the tool that helps you fulfill the dream, the destiny and the **calling** God has on your life.
- Gifts are a conduit between God’s supernatural **blessings** and the world’s natural realm.
- Our gifts are what God chooses to flow through to **reach** the natural world we live in.

D. Misusing and Not Using our Gifts

“You (Lucifer) were the model of perfection, full of wisdom

and exquisite in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone red carnelian, pale green peridot, white moonstone, blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper, blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald—all beautifully crafted for you and set in the finest gold. They were given to you on the day you were created. I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked among the stones of fire. 'You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you.'"

Ezekiel 28:13–14 (KJV)

- Lucifer's mistake: Taking **credit** for God's glory.
- Paul's warning: Don't **neglect** your gift.
"Use the gift you were given when the prophets spoke and the group of church leaders blessed you by placing their hands on you."
1 Timothy 4:14 (CEV)

What have I been given? A GIFT!

Who gave me that gift? GOD!

What is the purpose of that gift? TO SHOW WHO GOD IS!

Spiritual Gifts Test

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