

Five reasons you need to develop your spiritual gift:

1. **DIRECTION** and purpose for your life.
2. **FREEDOM** to embrace and enjoy who you are.
3. **JOY** that results from impacting lives.
4. **AFFIRMATION** of your victory with Christ.
5. **ACCOUNTABILITY** as you will be held responsible for the stewardship of your gift.

Developing your gifts begins with clarity:

There are three types of spiritual gifts:

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

1. Every believer has one primary/**motivational gift**. We are to concentrate on discovering and developing this gift.

Romans 12:6-8

2. That motivational gift (drive and ability) can express itself through a variety of **ministry** gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11

3. When we exercise our motivational gift through our ministry gifts the Holy Spirit determines what **manifestations** (or effect) will most benefit the receiver.

1 Corinthians 12:7

⁴There are different kinds of **gifts**, but the same Spirit.

⁵There are different kinds of **service**, but the same Lord.

⁶There are different kinds of **working**, but the same God works all of them in all men.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

“Gifts”	“Service”	“Workings”
Motivational	Ministry	Manifestation
(Charismata) Romans 12	(Diakonion) Ephesians 4 1 Corinthians 12:28	(Energamaton) 1 Corinthians 12:8-11
– Prophecy – Service – Teaching – Encouragement – Giving – Leadership – Mercy	– Apostles – Prophets – Evangelists – Pastor/Teacher – Teachers – Working of Miracles – Gifts of Healing – Helping – Tongues – Administration	– Word of Wisdom – Word of Knowledge – Faith – Healing – Miracles – Prophecy – Discernment – Tongues – Interpretation of Tongues

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:7

Developing your gifts demand a basic understanding of each New Testament gift*

- **Apostleship** – The divine enablement to start churches and oversee their development. Ability to minister cross-culturally with the goal of planting churches.
- **Prophecy** – The divine enablement to proclaim God’s truth with power and clarity in a timely and culturally sensitive fashion for correction, repentance, or edification. Ability to reveal God’s Word accurately.

- **Evangelism** – The ability to be an unusually effective instrument in leading unbelievers to a saving knowledge of Christ. Some with this gift are most effective in personal evangelism, while others may be used by God in group evangelism or cross-cultural evangelism.
- **Pastor/Teacher** – A person with this spiritual gift has the ability to lead, nourish, protect, and personally care for the needs of a “flock” of believers. Not all people with the office of pastor (elder, overseer) have or need the gift of pastoring or shepherding, and many with this gift do not have or need the office. This gift also includes teaching ability and is the only dual gift in the list.
- **Teaching** – The divine enablement to understand and give detailed explanation of biblical truth. Ability to search out and validate truth which has been presented.
- **Miracles** – (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28) The ability to serve as an instrument through whom God accomplishes acts that manifest supernatural power. Miracles bear witness to the presence of God and the truth of his proclaimed Word and appear to occur most frequently in association with missionary activity. The gospel message carries its own authority, but God sometimes graciously uses miracles to authenticate and open doors for the proclamation of forgiveness and life in Christ.
- **Healing** – (1 Corinthians 12:9, 28, 30) The ability to serve as a human instrument through whom God cures illnesses and restores health. The possessor of this gift is not the source of power but a vessel who can heal only those diseases the Lord chooses to heal. This spiritual gift should not be confused with the signs and wonders performed by Jesus and the apostles, and it should not be discredited because of the abuses of grandstanding faith healers.
- **Helps** – (1 Corinthians 12:28) The ability to enhance the effectiveness of the ministry of other members of the body. This is the only use of this word in the New Testament, and it appears to be distinct from the gift of service. Some writers suggest that while the gift of service is more group-oriented, the gift of helps is more person-oriented.

- **Administration/Leadership** – (1 Corinthians 12:28) This word, like helps, appears only once in the New Testament, and it is used outside of Scripture as a helmsman who steers a ship to its destination. This suggests that the spiritual gift of administration is the ability to steer a church or Christian organization toward the fulfillment of its goals by managing its affairs and implementing necessary plans. A person may have the gift of leadership without the gift of administration.
- **Wisdom** – (1 Corinthians 12:8) The ability to apply the principles of the Word of God in a practical way to specific situations and to recommend the best course of action at the best time. The exercise of this gift skillfully distills insight and discernment into excellent advice.
- **Knowledge** – (1 Corinthians 12:8) The ability to discover, analyze, and systematize truth for the benefit of others. With this gift, one speaks with understanding and penetration. But “the word of knowledge” can also involve supernatural perception and discernment for the purpose of ministering to others.
- **Faith** – (1 Corinthians 12:9) The ability to have a vision for what God wants to be done and to believe confidently that it will be accomplished in spite of circumstances and appearances to the contrary. The gift of faith transforms vision into reality.
- **Distinguishing of Spirits (Discernment)** – (1 Corinthians 12:10) The ability to discern the spirit of truth and the spirit of error (cf. 1 John 4:6). With this gift, one may distinguish reality versus counterfeits, the divine versus the demonic, true verses false teaching, and in some cases, spiritual versus carnal motives.
- **Tongues** – (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28, 30; 14:1-40) The ability to receive and impart a spiritual message in a language the recipient never learned. For other members of the body to be edified, this message must be interpreted either by the recipient (1 Corinthians 14:13) or by another person with the gift of interpretation (1 Corinthians 14:26-28).
- **Interpretation of Tongues** – (1 Corinthians 14:13) The ability to translate into the vernacular a message publicly uttered in a tongue. This gift may be combined with the gift of tongues (1 Corinthians 14:13), or it can operate separately (1 Corinthians 14:26-28).

Developing your spiritual gift demands that you exercise them by involvement in...

- PEOPLE'S lives and needs.
- A SMALL GROUP community.
- ONGOING training and education.
- Regular RISK TAKING opportunities.