

Spiritual Gifts



The Bible mentions several spiritual gifts, primarily in **Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, and 1 Peter 4**, and in a lot of other places. These gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to us, believers, for us to give back to the body and to the world.

"Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons.

Freely you have received; freely give." Matt. 10:8

Gifts identified in the Bible

1. The Nine Gifts of the Spirit (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11*)

Paul describes nine supernatural gifts given by the Holy Spirit:

1. **Word of Wisdom** – Supernatural wisdom for decision-making.
2. **Word of Knowledge** – Divine revelation of knowledge about a person or situation.
3. **Faith** – Extraordinary trust in God beyond normal belief.
4. **Gifts of Healings** – Ability to heal physical, emotional, or spiritual ailments.
5. **Working of Miracles** – Supernatural intervention that defies natural laws.
6. **Prophecy** – Speaking God's message for encouragement, warning, or edification.
7. **Discerning of Spirits** – Ability to distinguish between spirits (Godly, demonic, or human).
8. **Different Kinds of Tongues** – Speaking in languages unknown to the speaker.
9. **Interpretation of Tongues** – Understanding and interpreting a message spoken in tongues.

2. The Seven Motivational Gifts (*Romans 12:6-8*)

These are practical, **grace-based gifts** that shape how we serve others:

10. **Prophecy** – Declaring God's truth boldly.
11. **Serving (Helps)** – Helping others with practical needs.
12. **Teaching** – Explaining God's Word with clarity.
13. **Encouragement (Exhortation)** – Strengthening and uplifting others.
14. **Giving** – Generosity in supporting God's work.
15. **Leadership (Governance, Administration)** – Organizing and guiding others effectively.
16. **Mercy** – Compassionately caring for the hurting.



3. The Five Ministry Gifts (*Ephesians 4:11*)

Often called the **Five-Fold Ministry**, these gifts equip the Church:

- 17. **Apostles** – Pioneers who establish and oversee churches.
- 18. **Prophets** – Reveal God's will and provide direction.
- 19. **Evangelists** – Spread the gospel effectively.
- 20. **Pastors (Shepherds)** – Care for and nurture the flock.
- 21. **Teachers** – Provide instruction and sound doctrine.

4. Additional Gifts

- 22. **Celibacy** (*1 Corinthians 7:7-8*) – Special grace to remain unmarried for God's service.
- 23. **Hospitality** (*1 Peter 4:9-10, Romans 12:13*) – The gift of hospitality is the supernatural ability to welcome and care for others in a way that strengthens the Church and fosters fellowship.
- 24. **Intercession** (*1 Timothy 2:1, James 5:16*) – A deep burden to pray for others.
- 25. **Artistic and Creative Abilities** (*Exodus 31:3-5, 35*) – Creativity for worship and ministry.
- 26. **Music & Worship** (*1 Chronicles 16:41-42, 2 Chronicles 5:13, Ephesians 5:19*) Anointed in worship, music, and leading others into the presence of God
- 27. **Helps (Service & Assistance)** (**1 Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7**) help and serve behind the scenes, making ministry possible and supporting those on the front lines.
- 28. **Administration (Leadership & Organization)** (**1 Corinthians 12:28, Exodus 18:21-22**) This gift enables effective leadership, organization, and management of church resources, teams, and ministries.
- 29. **Intercession (Prayer & Spiritual Warfare)** (**Timothy 2:1, James 5:16**) Anointed in intercessory prayer, sensing deep burdens to pray for others and spiritual breakthroughs.
- 30. **Encouragement (Exhortation)** (**Romans 12:8, 1 Thessalonians 5:11**) A special ability to uplift, strengthen, and inspire others, helping them grow in faith.
- 31. **Giving (Generosity & Provision)** (**Romans 12:8, 2 Corinthians 9:7**) Those with this gift **love to give generously** to support ministry, missions, and those in need.
- 32. **Martyrdom (Suffering for Christ's Name)** (**Acts 7:59-60, Revelation 2:10**) Suffering for the Gospel, strengthening the Church through their witness.
- 33. **Writing** (**1 Corinthians 14:37, Jeremiah 30:2**) gifted in writing, teaching, and recording revelation to edify future generations.

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34. **Deliverance Ministry (Casting Out Demons) (Mark 16:17, Luke 10:19)** Setting people free from demonic oppression; Spiritual warfare.
35. **Missions & Cross-Cultural Ministry (Acts 13:2-3, Matthew 28:19-20)** Preach the Gospel and plant churches in unreached places. Taking the Gospel to the nations.

Wait there's still more:

The Gift of the Holy Spirit – The greatest gift we receive as believers is the gift of the Holy Spirit that can use all kinds of talents, skills, and abilities as a gift to bless the body. The Holy Spirit is a **personal gift** given to believers to empower, guide, and comfort

Acts 2:38 – *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

John 20:22 *"And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"*

Acts 1:8 – *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses..."*

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Empowers believers to be witnesses (**Acts 1:8**)

Brings boldness to preach the Gospel (**Acts 4:31**)

Equips believers with spiritual gifts (**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**)

Deepens intimacy with God through prayer (**Romans 8:26**)

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How to Identify Your Spiritual Gifts

Discovering your **spiritual gifts** is a process of seeking God, serving others, and paying attention to how the Holy Spirit works in your life. Here's a guide to help you identify your gifts:

1. Pray and Ask God for Revelation

- **James 1:5** – *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”*
- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal your gifts and how He wants you to use them.

2. Study the Biblical List of Spiritual Gifts

- See Above.
- See which gifts resonate with you or have already been evident in your life.

3. Ask Others for Confirmation

- **Proverbs 15:22** – *“Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.”*
- Ask trusted pastors, mentors, and fellow believers what gifts they see in you.

3. Take a Spiritual Gifts Assessment

- Many churches offer **spiritual gifts tests** that provide insight into where you might be gifted.
- You can also reflect on how you naturally serve in ministry and daily life.

4. Reflect on Your Passions and Strengths

- What excites you about serving God?
- Do you love **teaching, encouraging, giving, or leading**?
- Where do you see the **greatest impact** when you serve?

6. Start Serving in Different Areas

- Sometimes, the best way to discover your gift is by **stepping out in faith** and trying different ministries.
- For example, if you think you might have the **gift of teaching**, volunteer in a Bible study. If you feel led toward **healing prayer**, pray for the sick.

7. Observe the Results

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- **Where do you see fruit?** (John 15:8)
- Are people encouraged, healed, or drawn to Jesus through your ministry?
- The presence of **spiritual growth** and **peace** is often a sign you are walking in your gifting.

8. Listen to the Holy Spirit's Promptings

- **Romans 8:14** – *“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.”*
- Pay attention to inner nudges or **divine opportunities** that confirm your calling.

9. Be Patient and Keep Growing

- Spiritual gifts **develop over time** through experience and maturity.
- Even the Apostle Paul told Timothy to *“fan into flame the gift of God”* (2 Timothy 1:6).
- Stay committed to growth through **prayer, study, and service**.

10. Walk in Faith and Boldness

- **2 Corinthians 3:5** – *“Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.”*
- Trust that **God has equipped you** for a purpose. Step out in faith!

Practical Steps This Week:

1. Pray daily for God to reveal your gifts.
2. Read the spiritual gifts passages above.
3. Review the lists you made with your groups
4. Write down your experiences and reflections in a journal.

Additional Food for thought:

Luke 11:13 (NIV)

“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Also Matthew 7:11)

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Other Gifts from God in the Bible: In addition to spiritual gifts, the Bible mentions other gifts from God that He bestows upon His people. These include natural abilities, blessings, callings, and divine provisions that equip believers for life and godliness.

1. The Gift of Eternal Life

- **Romans 6:23** – *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*
- The greatest gift: Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

2. The Gift of Grace

- **Ephesians 2:8-9** – *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”*
- Grace is God’s **unearned favor**, enabling salvation and spiritual growth.

3. The Gift of Righteousness

- **Romans 5:17** – *“For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!”*
- Through Jesus, we receive **righteousness** (right standing with God) as a gift.

4. The Gift of Peace

- **John 14:27** – *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*
- Jesus gives **supernatural peace** that surpasses human understanding (Philippians 4:7).

5. The Gift of Wisdom

- **James 1:5** – *“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”*

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- Wisdom is a gift that **guides decisions and aligns us with God's will.**

6. The Gift of Strength in Weakness

- **Isaiah 40:29** – *“He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.”*
- **2 Corinthians 12:9** – *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*
- God grants supernatural **strength to endure trials** and accomplish His will.

7. The Gift of God's Word (The Bible)

- **Psalms 119:105** – *“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”*
- The Bible is a divine gift **for guidance, correction, and encouragement** (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

8. The Gift of Joy

- **Nehemiah 8:10** – *“The joy of the Lord is your strength.”*
- **Galatians 5:22** – *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...”*
- Joy is a **gift from God** that transcends circumstances.

9. The Gift of Rest

- **Matthew 11:28-30** – *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”*
- Spiritual and physical **rest is a divine blessing** for those who trust in God.

10. The Gift of God's Calling & Purpose

- **Romans 11:29** – *“For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable.”*
- God gives every believer a **calling and purpose** that is unique and unchangeable.

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11. The Gift of Family & Relationships

- **Psalm 127:3** – *“Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him.”*
- **Proverbs 18:22** – *“He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.”*
- Marriage, children, and friendships are **blessings from God**.

12. The Gift of Authority Over the Enemy

- **Luke 10:19** – *“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.”*
- Believers have spiritual **authority over evil** in Jesus’ name.

13. The Gift of Endurance & Perseverance

- **Hebrews 12:1** – *“Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”*
- **James 1:12** – *“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial.”*
- God grants believers **spiritual endurance** in trials.

14. The Gift of Divine Protection

- **Psalm 91:11** – *“For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.”*
- God provides **supernatural protection** over His people.

15. The Gift of Supernatural Provision

- **Philippians 4:19** – *“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.”*
- **Matthew 6:31-33** – God provides **for our daily needs** when we seek Him first.

16. The Gift of Open Doors & Opportunities

- **Revelation 3:8** – *“See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.”*

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- God **opens and closes doors** for His people according to His will.

17. The Gift of Forgiveness

- **1 John 1:9** – *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*
- **Ephesians 1:7** – *“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”*
- Through Christ, we receive **complete forgiveness and cleansing**.

18. The Gift of Contentment

- **1 Timothy 6:6** – *“But godliness with contentment is great gain.”*
- **Philippians 4:11-13** – *“I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.”*
- Contentment is a **gift that brings peace and freedom**.

19. The Gift of Eternal Rewards

- **Matthew 5:12** – *“Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven.”*
- **2 Timothy 4:8** – *“There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.”*
- God rewards **faithful believers in eternity**.

God's gifts extend far beyond **spiritual gifts**—they encompass **every aspect of life**, drawing us closer to Him.