

## I. Review

- A. We are currently taking a few weeks as a church family to focus on intentionally growing and building up one another in the gifts of the Spirit. He has given each one of us various gifts according to His grace. These gifts are given for the benefit of others in order to foster and grow us up into the fullness of love and maturity (Godly character) for Him and one another.
1. The gifts are diverse both in kind, expression, and power but equal in significance and necessity. (1 Cor. 12:12-27)
  2. The gifts are given to all through grace, not merit of internal Godliness, nor outer works of goodness, and are not a validation of one's walk with God. (Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:1; 2 Cor. 10:13; Eph. 4:7)
  3. Because the gifts are given through grace to all, we must never see the gifts as a hierarchy or indication of authoritative leadership. This role is only given to those who have proven godly character as a lifestyle and are proving it through various seasons over time. (1 Tim. 3:1-13)
  4. Without all the gifts functioning, the body will be hindered to one degree or another from coming into her fullness of destiny of love and mission. (Mat. 22:37; 1 Cor 13; Eph 4:11-16)

## II. The List

- A. There are actually a number of opinions concerning how many spiritual gifts are listed in the scripture. The most popular numbers are 7, 12, 21, and 27. For our purposes in this study and in the spiritual gifts test we are encouraging everyone to take we are going to go with 22.
1. Pastoral, Prophecy, Apostleship, Evangelistic, Teaching, Helps, Administration, Service, Craftsmanship, Giving, Hospitality, Faith, Miracles, Healings, Mercy, Word of Wisdom, Exhortation, Word of Knowledge, Discernment, Varieties of Tongues, Leadership, and Intercession
  2. We would like to encourage all of you to take a spiritual gifts test ([giftstest.com](http://giftstest.com)) and to talk to your peer group about what they think your spiritual gifts are. This will help in the sessions to come.

### III. Foundational Gifts

- A. Within the house of God there are five specific gifts that are given through which a foundation is laid and continually shored up to keep the body steady and growing in a healthy way. Without these foundational gifts, the rest of the gifts have a less-than-ideal place upon which to build and expand. This is why these gifts are listed as first in the scripture. (Eph. 2:20, 3:5, 4:11-13; Cor. 12:28)
1. Pastoral - Care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life, heart, and emotional issues. These individuals carry a heavy burden for hurting and broken individuals. Their ministry and heart is generally personally focused and thrives in one-on-one long term discipleship, small groups, and church family dynamics. (John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3)
  2. Prophecy - Receives and articulates the heart of God in a current context in order to correct, exhort, and encourage the body. Commonly receives revelation from Jesus concerning people or situations through dreams, open visions, mental pictures, impressions, imputed emotions, inner voice, audible voice, and physical manifestations. (Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5)
  3. Evangelistic - Has an ease and favor to engage individuals in conversations and ponderings of belief in Jesus. Strong focus on apologetics and the ability to cast down arguments of the carnal mind concerning Jesus. Unshakable burden to lead people to Jesus. (Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14)
  4. Apostleship - Building and Planting. Constantly concerned with shoring up the foundations and core values of ministries and individuals, identifies weak areas that need strengthening to bring greater function, identifies where individuals fit into the body, ministry is generally corporately focused, a vast sphere of ministry and thinks in terms of the wider and universal body of Christ. (Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14)

5. Teaching - Understanding and articulating the scriptures in a comprehensible way. They study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians. Authoritative in defending and supporting doctrines or truth. High value on proper exegesis and a restlessness with scriptural obscurity. (Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14)

#### IV. Expanding Gifts

- A. The expanding gifts function best in the framework of the foundational gifts but the foundational gifts are not necessary in order for the expanding gifts to be active in the corporate body. The gifts of the Spirit are given in a sequential order in two instances in scripture. This sequence is not to be taken as an order of importance, or authority structure. Rather, the sequence is a framework of how the gifts complement and build upon one another. The scriptures' present this idea as a building being built, or a healthy physical body. (1 Cor. 3:9; Eph. 2:19-22, 4:13-16; Heb. 3:3-4; Rev. 21:2, 14)
  1. Helps - These individuals are gifted to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry with the ability to often see the need before others do. The original word translated "helps" means to give aid or to bring relief in the time of need. Therefore, this gift mostly is seen in the realm walking in supernatural aid or relief in times of crisis. (Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28)
  2. Administration - The original word translated "administration" could also be translated "government" or "wise counsel". These individuals carry a supernatural ability to bring order to chaos, and to direct and organize communication, people, and resources in the body to accomplish a goal or vision. (Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28)
  3. Service - This gift is very similar to the gift of helps, however it is different in its lack of visionary drive and does not carry the connotation of relief to areas of need. Individuals who have the gift of service are incredibly diverse in their ability to support and work in multiple arenas and do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. (Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14)

4. Craftsmanship - Mostly seen in the Old Testament as the ability to plan, build, and work with your hands in construction environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications. I believe we can see this gift operating in inventions and ingenuity in the market place as well as intentional ministry arena's. (Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11; 2 Chronicles 34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3)
5. Giving - The divine ability and heart to give finances and other resources for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God, and ministering to practical needs. Though this gift can manifest in the ability to produce wealth, it is mostly found in the ability to give it away. (Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7 65)
6. Hospitality - The gift of hospitality is the ability to create warm, welcoming environments both in the spirit and the natural. The environments they create position individuals' hearts to receive the love of God and for effective ministry. (Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:13, 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9)
7. Faith - This gift of the Spirit is a feeling of supernatural belief or confidence to stir up intercession or ministry, and to believe God for unseen supernatural results in every arena of life. People who experience this gift seem to absolutely know what God wants to do in a given situation. (Acts. 3:4, 11:22-24, 14:9; Rom. 4:18-21; 1 Cor. 13:2)
8. Miracles - This gift speaks of the empowerment to walk in unique miracles that are outside of the common expressions of power that fill the scriptures, such as healing through prayer and dismissal of demons. Miracles are earmarked by their uniqueness in altering the natural outcomes or patterns of life. Examples of this include Jesus turning water into wine, Peter's shadow healing people, Phillip's translation, handkerchief healings, etc. (Mar. 16:20; Acts 5:12, 14:3, 15:12; Rom. 15:19; Heb. 2:4)
9. Healings - Every time this gift is spoken of it is used in the plural form. This means there are multiple ways in which Jesus heals people through the hands of the individuals with this gift. Types of healing include physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual (deliverance). Some of those methods include the various ways of laying on of hands, knowing various remedies, and discerning the cause of sickness. (Acts 5:16, 8:7, 28:8)

10. Mercy - The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy (feel what others feel), sympathy (experiencing what others experience) and compassion to care for those who are hurting in various ways. These individuals have the capacity to work through the brokenness of individuals until they come to wholeness, no matter how hopeless it may look or long it may take. (Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thess. 5:14)
11. Word of Wisdom - Individuals who are empowered to know and speak the wisdom of God in matters of counseling and consulting concerning all sorts of matters of life, through applying the truths of Scripture in a practical way. The best example we have of this gift is the wisdom given to Solomon to rule Israel. This gift of wisdom goes beyond mature life experience and into the arena of supernatural wisdom beyond our years or experience. (Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8)
12. Exhortation - The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to strengthen, comfort, or urge others to action through the written or spoken word and Biblical truth. The original word carries a strong indication of an ongoing intentionality rather than a one-time action. (Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25)
13. Word of Knowledge - Words of knowledge and prophetic words many times are blurred together to mean the same thing in charismatic culture. Scripturally, they are not the same. The word used for “prophecy” is used in the context of the knowledge of future events and circumstances and the word for “knowledge” is used in the context of current events and circumstances. Common examples of this are knowing that the Lord wants to minister to a certain topic or area in an individual or corporate way. It's also common to know unknown details of individuals' hearts and lives. Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3
14. Discernment - Individuals who walk in this gift are empowered with insight into both the positive and negative aspects of individual or corporate attitudes, motivations, and influences of the Spirit realm. (Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 8:17-23, 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 12:10)

15. Varieties of Tongues/Interpretation of Tongues - There are three different aspects of the gift of tongues seen in scripture.
  - a. Known Language - The first is individuals empowered to speak in a known language that they do not know for the sake of effective ministry. (Acts 2:4-12; 10:46)
  - b. Unknown Language - The second is speaking a prophetic utterance to edify the body in an unknown language. This gift is only effective if there is an accompanying interpretation of tongues. This gift empowers an individual to supernaturally interpret an unknown language in order that the intended recipients can understand it and be edified. Sometimes the individuals that give the tongue are the same individuals empowered to interpret it, and sometimes it is another who interprets. (1 Cor. 14:2-19, 27-28)
  - c. Spirit Language - The third is speaking an unknown language over your own spirit to build yourself up in God. (1 Cor. 14:4-5, 15, 18; Eph. 5:19; Jde 1:20)
16. Leadership - The gift of leadership is the divine strength (not natural) or ability to have influence over people through both intentional direction and lifestyle example. These individuals are able to meet people at their level while directing and focusing them to the bigger picture, vision, or idea and how they can fit, or contribute to it. (Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17)
17. Intercession - The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap as a lifestyle in prayer for someone, something, or someplace, believing for profound results until the results or victory manifests. (Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; James 5:14-16)