

Review and Implementation of Spiritual Gifts

First Peter 4:10 says, “As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” As it goes with any gift, it is only beneficial if it is utilized. James 1:17 says, “Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.” Everything that God gives us is according to His divine grace and is complete, adequate, and beneficial. God sovereignly and intentionally gives each person a unique gift or gifts to utilize for kingdom work. It is no accident that God has equipped you in the manner with which He has.

Each believer is an intricate and vital part of a beautiful plan. You may have heard the saying, “Many hands make light work.” What if we took that thought and reshaped it to say, “Many believers who rightly use their spiritual gifts can have a tremendous impact for the kingdom of God for His glory!” How amazing! Through responding in obedience and being willing to work and utilize spiritual gifts, the church family is strengthened, the gospel is advanced, and the impact can be far reaching! God displays His wisdom and knowledge by providing each believer within the church family with gifts which are intended to be utilized to help the Body of Christ flourish and fulfill the Great Commission.

Review of Spiritual Gifts

Administration: Persons gifted in the area of administration are goal- and objective-oriented. They often have strong organizational skills and are able to coordinate resources to accomplish tasks quickly.

Evangelism: Persons gifted in the area of evangelism have a strong desire to share the gospel with nonbelievers in every situation and by all possible means.

Exhortation: Persons gifted in the area of exhortation have a special ability to encourage others in the body of Christ by giving them words of comfort, encouragement, and counsel in times of need.

Giving: Persons gifted in the area of giving have the ability to give material goods and financial resources with joy so that the needs of the Lord’s work are met.

Helps: Persons gifted in the area of helps are motivated by a desire to further the church’s ministry by meeting the needs of others, especially those in leadership positions.

Hospitality: Persons gifted in the area of hospitality have the ability to make guests feel comfortable and at home. They have a desire to provide a warm welcome to guests, whether in a ministry or social setting. They often delight in opening their homes to individuals or groups and often look for opportunities to use their gift to minister to others.

Leadership: Persons gifted in the area of leadership have the ability to lead others toward spiritual growth. They often are considered visionary and have the ability to set goals and motivate others toward accomplishing the goals.

Mercy: Persons gifted in the area of mercy have immediate compassion for those who are suffering physically, spiritually, or emotionally. They prefer to remove the causes of hurts rather than to look for spiritual benefits from them.

Prophecy: Persons in the area of prophecy have the ability to proclaim God’s truth without compromise. They are persuasive in defining right and wrong and are persistent in expressing their feelings about the need for change.

Service: Persons gifted in the area of service have the ability to perform any task with joy that benefits others and meets practical needs.

Shepherding: Persons gifted in the area of shepherding have the unique ability to take responsibility for the long-term spiritual growth of a group of believers. They see guiding, feeding, and protecting a flock of Christ’s followers as their responsibility.

Teaching: Persons gifted in the area of teaching have the ability to explain God’s truth so that others can understand and apply it to their lives.