

SERMON – “The Gifts of the Spirit”

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1, 4-6 – Be **educated** in the area of **spiritual gifts**!

Would you **AGREE** that **remnant believers** have a **remnant message** and a **remnant mission**? Given our sacred mission, God invites every remnant believer to be involved in this great work! And the Spirit has gifted each of us with a **unique gift set** to fulfill this great mission!

ST 3-14-1910: “Not all the gifts are imparted to each believer, but to every servant of the Master some gift of the Spirit is promised, according to his need for the Lord’s work.”

QUESTIONS: Do you know your own specific giftedness? If so, are you using your spiritual gifts to their fullest potential? **RE**: **Untapped gift potential; little/no guidance in discovery; not a priority; few sources; developed inventory**. As we consider these questions, we should also know the difference between **fruit (character)**, **talents (abilities and skills)**, and **gifts (divine enablers that impact people for eternity)**. Let’s briefly survey **FIVE main spiritual gifts passages** in the NT.

ROMANS 12:4-8, 13: There are **seven** spiritual gifts in this passage.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7-11, 28-30: **13** spiritual gifts are listed here.

EPHESIANS 4:11-12: **Five** equipping spiritual gifts are in this passage.

1 PETER 4:9-11 – There are **three** spiritual gifts in this passage.

Two other potential spiritual gifts: **celibacy** (Matt. 19:12; 1 Cor. 7:7-9) and **exorcism** (Matt. 7:21-23; Mk. 16:15-18). 24 NT Spiritual Gifts:

| | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|----------------|
| Prophecy | Knowledge | Helps | Ministry | Faith | Administration |
| Teaching | Healing | Evangelism | Exhortation | Miracles | Pastoring |
| Giving | Discernment | Speaking | Leading | Tongues | Interpretation |
| Mercy | Wisdom | Apostleship | Hospitality | Celibacy | Exorcism |

Spiritual Gifts Inventory: It tests for all gifts except **miracles, healings**, and **exorcism**. It is **NOT** fool-proof; check your answers with others!

The **24 spiritual gifts** are grouped into **three categories**: (1) **equipping gifts** (apostles; prophets; evangelists; pastors; teachers; leadership; administration); (2) **operational gifts** (wisdom; ministry; knowledge; discernment; giving; faith; hospitality; helps; speaking; exhortation; and mercy); and (3) **situational gifts** (celibacy; exorcism; healing; miracles; tongues; and interpretation of tongues). **RE**: **Acts 2:1-11 (ability to speak/hear in a known language; Ron; German)**.

Other Key Points: (1) Gifts don’t guarantee salvation. (**Matt. 7:21-23**); (2) Gifts are not gender specific; (3) Gifts can be given at birth. (**Jer. 1:5; Lk. 1:15; Gal. 1:15**); (4) Gifts can become apparent at water baptism, laying on of hands, and/or Spirit baptism. (**Acts 10:44-46; 19:1-7; 1 Tim. 4:12; 2 Tim. 1:6**); (5) Some gifts are temporary; others last a lifetime; (6) Gifts can change with varying ministry needs; and (7) Gifts should **ONLY** and **ALWAYS** be used for the glory of God.

COL 327-328: “The gifts are already ours in Christ, but their actual possession depends upon our reception of the Spirit of God ... if the gifts of the Spirit are theirs, the poorest and most ignorant of His disciples will have a power that will tell upon hearts. God makes them the channel for the outworking of the highest influence in the universe.”

QUESTION: How do we discover our gifts? The acronym **G.I.F.T.E.D.**

Glean from Scripture (study the NT spiritual gifts)

Inquire of the Lord (pray for God to guide in discovery)

Find your strengths (identify skills, talents, abilities, etc.)

Target your passions (identify areas of ministry interest)

Engage the church (seek confirmation from the body)

Detect results (look for indications of ministry success)

RESPONSE: Given our **remnant message/mission**, do you know what spiritual gifts you have as a **remnant believer**? Are you using these gifts in God’s work? **RE**: **passing out; God qualifies those who are called; 9T 19-20**. Will you make it a **TOP PRIORITY** to **DISCOVER** and **USE your spiritual gifts** for the **glory of God** and His sacred work?