

What in the World are Spiritual Gifts?

HOLY SPIRIT: Living In Third Person – Part 1 of 7

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.”

1 Cor. 12: 1

Four Truths About Spiritual Gifts

1. Spiritual Gifts draw us to Christ.

“You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, ‘Jesus be cursed,’ and no one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.”

1 Cor. 12:2-3

Jesus: **“If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself...”**

Matthew 16:24

Paul: **“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.”**

1 Cor. 2:4-5

2. Spiritual Gifts help us experience God’s presence.

“...while everyone is prophesying, they will exclaim, ‘God is really among you!’”

1 Cor 14:24-25

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.”

1 Cor. 12:4

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...”

Gal. 5:22-23 (NKJV)

“Brothers and sisters, consider who you were when God called you to salvation. Not many of you were wise scholars by human standards, nor were many of you in positions of power. Not many of you were considered the elite when you answered God’s call.

But God chose those whom the world considers foolish to shame those who think they are wise, and God chose the puny and powerless to shame[a] the high and mighty. He chose the lowly, the laughable[b] in the world’s eyes—nobodies—so that he would shame the somebodies. For he chose what is regarded as insignificant in order to supersede what is regarded as prominent, so that there would be no place for prideful boasting in God’s presence.”

1 Cor. 1:26-29 (Passion)

“Show them all this by doing it yourself, incorruptible in your teaching, your words solid and sane. Then anyone who is dead set against us, when he finds nothing weird or misguided, might eventually come around.”

Titus 2:6-7 (Message)

3. Spiritual gifts are for serving.

“There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.”

1 Cor. 12:5

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

1 Peter 4:10

4. Spiritual Gifts are available to all believers.

“Every good gift and every perfect present comes from heaven; it comes down from God, the Creator of the heavenly lights, who does not change or cause darkness by turning.”

James 1:17 (Good News)

“Let me ask you this: Do you know of any father who would give his son a snake on a plate when he asked for a serving of fish? Of course not! Do you know of any father who would give his daughter a spider when she had asked for an egg? Of course not! If imperfect parents know how to lovingly take care of their children and give them what they need, how much more will the perfect heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit’s fullness when his children ask him.”

Luke 11:11-13 (Passion)