

# Gifts & Ministries of the Spirit

## **1 Introduction**

### **The purpose of this series is to:**

- Understand how to receive and discern gifts of the Spirit.
- Better understand the gifts God has already given us.
- Discern our ministries.

### **Consider what Jesus, the head of the church, tells us we are to do.**

#### **Consider**

- Moses
- Jeremiah
- Mary, Mother of Jesus
- Peter, James and John
- Paul

The church's mission blossoms as individual members of the Body of Christ respond to God's call in the use of their gifts and the exercise of their ministries.

#### **Key Bible Passages:**

- Romans 12
- 1 Corinthians 12-14

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

Gifts - Services - Activities

Activated by one and the same Spirit

As the Spirit chooses

## Gifts

The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. 8 Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaining. 10 Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 11 Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:7-11)

<p><b>Word Gifts/Callings:</b></p> <p><b>Apostle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eph. 4:11-14</li> </ul> <p><b>Prophecy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:10,28</li> <li>• Eph. 4:11-14</li> <li>• Romans 12:6</li> </ul> <p><b>Teaching</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:28</li> <li>• Eph 4:11-14</li> <li>• Rom. 12:7</li> </ul> <p><b>Evangelist</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eph 4:11-14</li> </ul> <p><b>Exhortation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rom. 12:8</li> <li>• 1 Tim. 4:13</li> </ul> <p><b>Wisdom</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 2:1-13</li> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:8</li> </ul>	<p><b>Knowledge (Word of knowledge)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor 2:14</li> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:8</li> </ul> <p><b>Discernment of spirits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:10</li> <li>• 1 John 4:1-6</li> </ul> <p><b>Tongues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:10,28</li> <li>• 1 Cor. 14:13-19</li> </ul> <p><b>Interpretation of tongues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:10, 30</li> <li>• 1 Cor. 14:13, 26-28</li> </ul> <p><b>Service Gifts/Callings:</b></p> <p><b>Service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rom 12:7</li> <li>• 2 Tim. 1:16-18</li> </ul>	<p><b>Healing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:9,28</li> </ul> <p><b>Deeds of power (miracles)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:10,28</li> <li>• Rom. 15:18-19</li> </ul> <p><b>Faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor.12:9</li> </ul> <p><b>Pastor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eph 4:11-14</li> <li>• 1 Tim. 3:1-7</li> <li>• John 10:1-18</li> </ul> <p><b>Forms of assistance (helps)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:28</li> </ul> <p><b>Mercy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rom 12:8</li> </ul> <p><b>Giving</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rom 12:8</li> </ul>	<p><b>Leadership Gifts/Callings:</b></p> <p><b>Forms of leadership (governances)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rom. 12:8</li> <li>• 1 Tim. 5:17</li> <li>• Overseer (bishop)</li> <li>• Elder (presbyter)</li> <li>• Deacon</li> </ul> <p><b>Administration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 12:28</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Gifts/Callings:</b></p> <p><b>Celibacy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Cor. 7:7-8</li> </ul> <p><b>Hospitality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Peter 4:9</li> <li>• Rom 12:9-13</li> </ul>
---	---	---	--

## 2 Discerning Our Callings

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. (1 Corinthians 12:4-6)*

### How do I discern my calling?

1. **Be in the Word:** 2 Timothy 3:16 — *All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.*
2. **Be in the Fellowship:** 1 Corinthians 12:12 — *For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.*
3. **Acknowledge Sin:** Psalm 32 [Read it!]
4. **Repent & Have Faith:** Mark 1:14-15 — *Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."*
5. **Surrender Your Will to God's Will:** Romans 12:1-2 — *I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.*
6. **Be Willing to Change Your Mind:** 1 Corinthians 14:20 — *Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking; rather, be infants in evil, but in thinking be adults.*  
We are on a journey. We are engaged in a process. God is changing our minds about things.
7. **Test the Spirits:** 1 John 4:1 — *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; for many false prophets have gone out into the world.*  
Test to see where your direction, idea, vision, or notion is coming from.
8. **Try it out:** Many times God gives us opportunities to try things out. In practice or even in our imagination. God is calling forth sanctified imaginations.

## **3 Prophecy**

### **Prophecy and the Bible.**

#### **What is prophecy?**

*Prophecy is a timely message or call to action originating from God and directed to others.*  
(from David Lowry, *The Prophetic Element in the Church*, p. 2)

#### **Why prophecy is important for the church of Christ today.**

- Are all Christians prophets?
- What are the dynamics of prophecy? (What goes on in the prophet's mind?)
- Prophecy and Prayer.
- Types of prophecy.
- Prophecy and Context.
- Prophecy and Discernment.
- Prophecy and Hope.
- Prophecy in the Church. (Councils, Committees and Ministries)
- Prophecy in the World.
- Prophetic Action.

#### **Reaching Out for the Gift!**

---

## **4 Teaching**

**Wisdom, Knowledge**

**Teaching and the Bible.**

**What is the gift of teaching?**

**Why teaching is important for the church of Christ today.**

- What are the basic elements in teaching?
- Teaching and prophecy.
- Teaching and Bible Study.
- Teaching, Prayer & the Holy Spirit.

**Reaching Out for the Gift!**

## **5 Other Word Gifts**

**Exhortation, Discernment, Tongues**

**Exhortation in the Bible.**

**What is exhortation?**

**Discernment in the Bible.**

**What is discernment?**

**Tongues in the Bible.**

**What is tongues?**

**Reaching Out for the Gifts!**

## **6 Evangelism**

**Evangelism and the Bible.**

**What is evangelism? Evangelists?**

**Why evangelism is important for the church of Christ today.**

- What are the basic elements of evangelism?
- Mission, Evangelism & Evangelists.
- Evangelism, Prayer & the Holy Spirit.

**Reaching Out for the Gift!**



## 7 Healing

The church has a healing ministry because Jesus healed. The church ministers healing through Jesus Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ.

### The characteristics of Jesus' healing ministry:

- Compassion
- Authority (*But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you.* - Matthew 12:28)

### The church is a healing community. Through the diversity of gifts....

### The church ministers to the whole person as Jesus did.

- Matthew 9:2-8
- James 5:13-20
- Types of healing.... The ministry of the word and prayer.
- Individuals with the gift of healing.

### Eleven reasons why people are not healed.

1. Lack of faith.
2. Redemptive suffering.
3. A false value attached to suffering.
4. Sin.
5. Not praying specifically.
6. Faulty diagnosis.
7. Refused to see medicine as a way God heals.
8. Not using the natural means of preserving health.
9. Now is not the time.
10. A different person is to be the instrument of healing.
11. The social environment prevents healing from taking place. (From Francis MacNutt, *Healing*, pp. 248-261)

### Experiences. Doing it.

## **8 Service Gifts**

Service, Forms of Assistance, Hospitality, Mercy, Giving, Faith, Deeds of Power

**Service, Forms of Assistance.**

**Service in the Power of the Spirit.**

**Mercy**

**Hospitality.**

**Giving**

**Faith, Deeds of Power**

**Spiritual resources for serving.**

**Reaching Out for the Gift!**

## **9 Leadership**

The gift for shepherding people.

The gift for administrating and organizing.

### **Threefold Ministry**

- Overseer (Bishop)
  
- Elder (Office of Pastor)
  
- Deacon (Servant Leader)

Leadership is a gift and calling from God.

### **Leadership & authority.**

Why does the Bible tell us to "obey our leaders and submit to them?" (*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you. - Hebrews 13:17*)