

## **Week 5: Spirit as Gift-Giver**

Home group notes (Van Johnson)

*The Spirit as Gift-giver*—Holy Spirit gives gifts to *enable* us to do what God has called us to do

### **What is a spiritual gift?**

“A spiritual gift is

a special attribute  
given by the Holy Spirit  
to every member of the body of Christ  
according to God’s grace  
for use within the context of the body.”

C. Peter Wagner, *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow*

1. *a special attribute* (1Cor 12.4-11, ‘to one is given..., and to another...’)  
Not a general characteristic shared by all; each gift is given selectively.  
Fruit of the Spirit comes in a bundle; gifts are wrapped separately.
2. *given by the H.S.* (1Cor 12.11)  
He is a gift-giver: i.e., *spiritual* gifts are not the same as natural talents
3. *to every member of the body of Christ* (1Cor 12.7)  
Everyone is a specialist; everyone has a role
4. *according to God’s grace*  
A gift rather than a merit badge or reward
5. *for use within context of body* (1C 12.7: for the common good)  
If you have a gift, use it for someone else

### **What are the spiritual gifts that the Spirit gives?**

1Pet 4.11--speaking and serving gifts

#### **SPEAKING gifts**

##### **1 Prophecy**

*Ability to receive and speak a word from God (not rehearsed)  
that is for the strengthening of others*

Beware of anyone who has a word for you: it is to be judged, not just accepted

##### **2 Apostleship**

*An ability to proclaim the gospel outside of one’s home area*

Like a missionary

##### **3 Teaching**

*Ability to communicate spiritual truth effectively*

##### **4 Evangelism**

*Particular ability to witness effectively for Jesus*

We are all witnesses, but for some it is a specialty

##### **5 Pastoring**

*Ability to take long-term interest in the spiritual welfare of others*

##### **6 Exhortation/Encouragement**

- Ability to build others up--encouragement and counsel*
- 7 **Word of Knowledge**  
*God-given insight to know something not learned*  
But situational; person is not all-knowing
- 8 **Word of Wisdom**  
*God-given insight to know what to do in particular situation*
- 9 **Gift of Tongues**  
*Ability to speak a message from God in an unknown language*  
Pentecostals distinguish between the *gift of tongues*, which is selective, and *speaking in tongues as a sign of Spirit Baptism*  
In the first case, tongues is the gift; in the latter, the sign of another gift
- 10 **Gift of Interpretation**  
*Ability to interpret a message in tongues*  
interpretation, not translation; not word for word, but conveys a divine thought

### **SERVING gifts**

- 11 **Service/Helps**  
*Ability to provide service to the church in supporting role*
- 12 **Leadership (1Cor 12.28)**  
*Ability to see what God wants done and motivate others toward it*  
Two kinds: 1. A Visionary; 2. An Administrator (not all leaders are both)
- 13 **Giving**  
*An urge to share one's personal resources, whether food, clothing, money*
- 14 **Showing Mercy**  
*Ability to minister to someone in need, especially the poor*
- 15 **Care-giving**  
*Ability to oversee or administer practical care*
- 16 **Faith**  
*Ability to believe with unusual confidence in something God will do*  
This is another example of *gift and role*: some are gifted this way, but we all have a measure of faith as believers (role)
- 17 **Discernment**  
*Ability to discern whether someone or something is of divine or demonic influence*
- 18 **Healing**  
*Ability to pray for people for healing with uncommon success*
- 19 **Miracles**  
*Ability to perform miracles that demonstrate the power of God*
- 20 **Celibacy**  
*The ability to remain single without undue stress and concern so as to devote oneself more singularly to the work of the Lord (1Cor 7.7)*