

OLIVET GOSPEL CHURCH

STUDY ON SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. DEFINITION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. What it is not:

- I. It is not a talent. Natural skill or aptitude to a skill with which someone was born
- II. It is not an office. There are only four offices in the church:
 - Head Eph. 1:22
 - Oversight 1 Tim. 3:1-7
 - Deacon 1 Tim. 3:8-13
 - Priest 1 Peter 2:5, 9
- III. It is not the fruit of the Spirit. These are character traits exhibited by the believers as they grow in Christ. (Gal. 5:22-23)

B. What it is:

A SPIRITUAL GIFT IS A DIVINE DEPOSIT OF SPECIAL ABILITY GIVEN FOR VARIED SERVICE IN EACH TRUE CHRISTIAN IN THE CHURCH.

Gifts take into consideration abilities, strengths and accountability

2. BACKGROUND OF GIFTS

The giving of gifts has its roots in the old Jewish and Eastern traditions as seen in Psalm 68.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS

A. Who gives gifts?

Gifts are given by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:9; Eph. 4:7-11)

B. Who gets gifts?

Each person who has truly repented and has a genuine conversion experience gets at least one gift. (Eph. 4:7; 1 Cor. 12:7,11; 1 Peter 4:10)

C. How are the gifts distributed?

Gifts are distributed by the sovereign grace of God. It is God who decides what should be given and to what measure. (1 Cor.12:11)

D. Could there be differences in the same gift?

1 Cor. 12:4-6. There are varieties of gifts, ministries and effects. Two men may be teachers, but one writes and the other speaks.

E. Gifts are given in measure.

One may have a larger measure of evangelism than another.

4. DISTINCTION OF GIFTS

- A. List of gifts are found in four different places in the New Testament: (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:6-10, 28-30; Eph. 4:11; 1 Peter 4:11)
- B. Careful analysis of the different list of gifts reveals that there are nineteen spiritual gifts given to the church.
- C. What about:

Hospitality? 1 Peter 4:9-10

Celibacy? 1 Cor. 7:7

5. DEFINITION AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE GIFTS

- a) **WISDOM:** A divine ability to apply truth revealed by God. (1 Cor. 12:8; Acts 15:13-15)
- b) **KNOWLEDGE:** A divine ability to know something which is hidden. (1 Cor. 12:8; Acts 5:1-11)
- c) **FAITH:** A divine ability to have confidence that God will work a specific way. (1 Cor. 12:9; Acts 27:9-26)
- d) **HEALING:** A divine ability to command someone's healing with immediate effect. (1 Cor. 12:9; Acts 3:1-10)
- e) **MIRACLES:** A divine ability to command and do extraordinary acts. (1 Cor. 12:10; Acts 19:11-12, 13:8)

- f) **PROPHECY:** A divine ability to speak the Word of God infallibly. The New Testament is a product of this gift. (1 Cor. 12:10; Acts 11: 27-30)
- g) **DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS:** A divine ability to discern whether someone or thing is of God, self or the devil. (1 Cor. 12:10; Acts 8:18-23; 13:6-11)
- h) **TONGUES:** A divine ability to speak a fluent language in which one had no training. (1 Cor. 12:10; Acts 2:4-10)
- i) **INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES:** A divine ability to interpret a miraculous tongue without having had any training to do so. (1 Cor. 12:10)
- j) **HELPS:** A divine ability to serve faithfully in practical ways and to encourage and strengthen believers in the work of the Lord. (Rom. 12:7; Acts 16:14-15; Rom. 16:1-2)
- k) **TEACHING:** A divine ability to study, communicate, and apply God's Word. (Rom. 12:8; Acts 18:24-26)
- l) **EXHORTATION:** A divine ability to exhort and console. (Rom. 12:8; Acts 9:26-28, 15:39)
- m) **GIVING:** A divine ability to give to God's work and people consistently, wisely, sacrificially and cheerfully. (Rom. 12:8; Phil. 4:10-16)

- n) **RULING:** A divine ability to lead and arrange the affairs of the church with efficiency and spiritually towards a harmonious end. (Rom.12:8; Titus 1&2)
- o) **MERCY:** A divine ability to graciously do acts of mercy even towards the undeserving. (Rom. 12:8; Acts 9:27)
- p) **PASTOR – TEACHER:** A divine ability to guard, equip, feed, nourish and lead God’s flock with all gentleness and meekness. (Eph. 4:11; Acts 20:28-31; 1 Peter 5:1-5)
- q) **APOSTLESHIP:** A divine ability to lay the foundation of the church with teaching, prophecy, signs and wonders. (Eph. 4:11; Eph. 2:20; Acts 9:36-43)
- r) **EVANGELISM:** A divine ability to present the message of the gospel and to equip people to do so. (Eph. 4-11; Acts 8:26-40)

6. PURPOSE OF THE GIFT

A. Common good. 1 Cor. 12:7

B. Confirmation. Heb. 2:3,4

C. Signs. 1 Cor. 14:21-22

7. CONFUSION OF GIFTS.

A. Are all gifts in operation today?

B. Have some gifts ceased?

8. VALUE PLACED ON GIFT

a.

b.

c

d.

9. DISCOVER AND DEVELOP YOUR GIFT

a. The necessity of discovery

1.

2.

3.

4.

b. How to discover your gift?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

c. How to develop your gifts.

1.

2.

3.