

**Series: What's Mine is His
"Gifted for Others?"
1 Corinthians 12:1-7**

Big Idea – God gave me spiritual gifts and talents to benefit others.

1 Corinthians 12:1-7 Now, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand about spiritual gifts.

2 You know the way you lived before you were believers. You let yourselves be influenced and led away to worship idols—things that could not speak.

3 So I want you to understand that no one who is speaking with the help of God's Spirit says, "Jesus be cursed." And no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," without the help of the Holy Spirit.

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but they are all from the same Spirit.

5 There are different ways to serve but we serve the same Lord.

6 God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

7 A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

What is a Spiritual Gift?

Definition: It is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ.

What are the Key Principles of Gifts?

1. Only believers have spiritual gifts.

1 Cor. 2:14 The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

2. Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift.

1 Cor. 7:7 I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.

3. No one has all the gifts or the same gifts.

1 Cor. 12:29-30 Is everyone an apostle? Of course not. Is everyone a prophet? No. Are all teachers? Does everyone have the power to do miracles? 30 Does everyone have the gift of healing? Of course not. Does God give all of us the ability to speak in unknown languages? Can everyone interpret unknown languages? No! 31 And in any event, you should desire the most helpful gifts.

4. You can't earn or work for a spiritual gift – God gives them

Eph. 4:7 However, he has given each one of us a special gift according to the generosity of Christ.

1 Cor. 12:11 It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

5. The gifts I'm given are permanent.

Rom. 11:29 For God's gifts and his call can never be withdrawn.

6. I should develop and use the gifts God gives me.

1 Tim. 4:14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecies spoken to you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you

1 Cor. 4:2 Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.

What are the Purposes of Spiritual Gifts?

1. To help others, not myself.

*"Each one of you, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the **good of others**, the spiritual gift he has received from God." 1 Peter 4:10*

"The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church." 1 Cor. 12:7

2. To produce maturity, unity and stability in my church family

"He gave gifts to men... to build up the Body of Christ so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith... and become mature... Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind..." Eph. 4:11, 13-14

What are some Cautions for Spiritual Gifts?

1. Not the same thing as natural talents

2. All are valuable and necessary

*1 Cor. 12:21 The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you."
The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."*

3. Gifts without love are worthless!

"I may be able to speak the languages of men and even of angels... I may have the gift of inspired preaching... I may have all knowledge... and all the faith to move mountains -- but if I have not love, I am nothing... it does no good." 1 Cor. 13:1-3

What is the most common, but overlooked gift?

Gift of SERVING aka HELPS

Romans 12:6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.

*7 If it is **servicing**, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach;*

8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.