

THE GHOST—3 THE GRACE GIFTS OF THE GHOST

“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 serving, 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.” Romans 12:6-8

1) **WHO?** God gives a spiritual gift to every believer vv. 6 *Only One Gift?*

- Each believer is to concentrate fully on the gift God has given him. This would not be possible if he had more than one motivational gift. See Romans 12:3-8.
- The noun for gift is singular. (1 Peter 4:10 and in 1 Tim. 4:14)

2). **WHAT?** Spiritual Gifts are an extra measure of grace vv. 6 **Spiritual Matters (Pneumatikon)**

Spiritual Gifts (motivations= *charismaton*) The basic inward motivation which God places in each Christian to express His love to the church. 1 Corinthians 12:4 (*Grace gifts are given*)

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| ωProphesying – proclaiming truth | ωGiving – entrusting assets for ministry |
| ωServing – meeting practical needs | ωOrganizing – coordinating efforts |
| ωTeaching – clarifying truth | ωEmpathizing – sharing and removing emotional distress |
| ωExhorting – building up faith | |

Ministries (services= *diakonion*) The avenues of service in which a Christian exercises his or her spiritual gift. 1 Cor.12:5 (*We are encouraged to seek ministries*) 1 Cor. 12:27-31, Eph. 4:11, 1 Tim. 3:1,8

Manifestations (effects= *energmaton/ phanerosis*) The possible activities of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those giving or receiving ministry. 1 Corinthians 12:6-10 (*exercise and receive*)

3). **HOW?** – We should serve using our gift in proportion to our faith, generously, diligently & cheerfully vv. 6 *Practical Steps for Discovering Your Spiritual Gift*

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| • Develop spiritual integrity | • Narrow the list to a choice between two gifts |
| • Pray about it and ask the Lord | • Ask why you were doing and what effect you want |
| • Ask others how they see God's grace in you | • Understand your desires. |
| • Examine yourself realistically | • Commit yourself to action |

4). **WHY?** - Community (Unity), Intimacy (Knowledge), Maturity (Grown-up) Eph. 4:13-17

5). **WHY NOT?** - Not worshipping, Conformed to the world, Proudful, without love. Rom 12:1-3 *Sensitivity to Abuse From 1 Cor. 12-14, Pneumatika are abused when:*

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| • Deny His sovereignty in distribution (12:14-18) | • Insensitive to novices or unbelievers (14:23) |
| • Minister independently of the body (12:14-18) | • More than one at a time speaks in tongues (14:27) |
| • Show more honor to external gifts (12:22-25) | • A prophet is not subject to other prophets (14:29.32) |
| • Expect all to exhibit any one gift (12:29-30) | • Confusion reigns rather than peace and order (14:33,40) |
| • Think gifts are better than love (12:31-13:10) | |
| • Not seeking to edify the body (14:12,17,26) | |
| • Give prominence to ecstasy over instruction (14:18,19) | |

Personal Reflective Questions

1. What are the main purposes of God giving us each a spiritual gift?
2. In light of Scripture, your experiences and the opinion of mature believers which gift do you think God has given you?
3. What benefits will you receive if you began using your gift in various ministry situation?

4. When will the Body of Christ be brought to complete unity? Mt. 24:1

