

Ch. 9 “Putting It All Together On Spiritual Gifts” What is the practical outcome of God’s promise I have a spiritual gift?

What steps can we take to use our gifts as God intended?

1. Discover your gifts.
2. Develop your gifts.
3. Reflect all of God’s gifts to you.

We Are Responsible To Discover Our Gifts

Many people want to serve in a ministry but have no idea what their gift or gifts are. Can you relate?

1 Peter 4:7-10 - Peter wrote: “The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.” What is Peter saying here? What is “clear minded”?

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” What does this mean?

“Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.” What is he saying here?

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” What should we do with our gifts?

Rom. 12:6 – Paul wrote: “We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.”

Greek “charismata” – referring to special gifts of grace freely given to His people to meet the needs of the body.

Have you ever thought of your role in the body? What happens to the body if an organ is not operating?

What are some reasons why you may not be able to identify your spiritual gifts?

1. Unresolved conflicts in your life – You may have issues that cause confusion and spiritual conflict in your life that you have not yet resolved with God. This will cause stagnant communication with the Holy Spirit.
2. Not involved in ministry – You may think that this is putting the cart before the horse but often your gifts are revealed as you work to serve God. Your service can reveal your gift.
3. Attempting to imitate the gift of someone else – Trying to pick a gift for yourself will only confuse the matter. Trust the Holy Spirit to reveal your gifts to you, not your own desires.

Which of the obstacles mentioned are impeding your efforts to discover your spiritual gifts?

How did you come to discover your spiritual gifts?

We Can Develop Our Gifts

Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift. Once you have discovered your gift, how do you develop it?

1. Learn to walk in the Spirit – If you are not walking in the Spirit, you are walking in the flesh. Serving your desires is not serving God’s. You must surrender control of your life to God in order to use your gifts. How difficult is it to live like this when we are surrounded by worldly desires and pressures?
2. Learn the characteristics of that gift – What should it look like for that particular gift to be effective in God’s work on earth? Learn what the qualities are of that person with that gift. Do you see spiritual gifts in others around you?
3. Ask God to sharpen your focus to identify needs – “The goal is to identify the specific characteristics of your gift and then work with God to develop and improve those characteristics one by one, step by step. When that happens, your life will begin to weigh more – not your physical body, but your life overall.” You will have more spiritual influence to those around you. Do you see yourself having spiritual influence to those you are around now in your life?

We Can Reflect All Of God’s Gifts

You can reflect all seven of the spiritual gifts in your life to the glory of God.

1 Cor. 14:1 – “Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.”

Col. 3:16 – “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Col. 3:12-13 – “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

God commands us to use our spiritual gifts matched with our natural talents to be a part of His plan. What spiritual gifts do you feel you possess? Is there anything preventing you from moving forward with the Holy Spirit in utilizing and implementing your gifts?