



Rejoice Learning Center
USA, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh,
Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, Benin

Lesson 7: Spiritual Gifts

Introduction:

Spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to believers for the edification of the Church and the fulfillment of God's mission. Today, we explore various spiritual gifts, their purpose, and how to use them effectively for God's glory.

1. Who receives spiritual gifts?
2. Who is the giver of the gifts?
3. Which spiritual gifts are mentioned in scripture?
4. Do we have any say in which gifts we receive?
5. Each gift is important.
6. What are the gifts for?
7. Servants of God are a gift to the body as well.
8. How should we serve? How should we use our gifts?
9. Spiritual gifts can be imparted.
10. We are commanded to use our gifts.
11. Discovering your spiritual gift.

Goals: We learn about the different gifts and prayerfully discover your gifts and how to use them.

1 WHO RECEIVES SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

1 Cor 12 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, **brothers and sisters**, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. ³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed," and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. → **Only born again believers!**

2 WHO IS THE GIVER OF THE GIFTS?

1 Cor 12:4 – The holy spirit, the Lord, God

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same **Spirit** distributes them. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same **Lord**. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same **God** at work.

Ephesians 4:7 – Jesus

Now to each one of us grace has been given according to the measure of the **gift of Christ**. ⁸ This is why it says: “When He ascended on high, He led captives away, and **gave gifts** to men.”

3 WHICH SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE?

1 Corinthians 12:7-10

⁷ Now **to each one** the manifestation of the Spirit is given **for the common good**. ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit

a message of wisdom (*A message of wisdom is advise from God according to Proverbs 13:10. Example: Noah received wisdom to build the ark, and Moses received wisdom on how to build the tent of the Tabernacle.*)

to another **a message of knowledge** (*Example: While praying for someone the spirit lets me know that he needs to repent of adultery. Jesus knew that the Samaritan women had many husbands.*)

by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another **faith** (*Example: The gift of faith is very strong faith. You believe the Word of God no matter what. That is most likely because the Lord has shown himself to you in a powerful manner. Peter and Paul both had extraordinary faith, so much that both of them worked many miracles and even raised a dead person back to life.*)

by the same Spirit, to another **gifts of healing** (*Example: You lay your hands on the sick and they will be well. Or you operate in a healing anointing like Jesus. You speak the Word, give commands or deliver. Peter in Acts 3 healed the lame beggar.*)

by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another **miraculous powers** (*Example: Raising the dead. Jesus brought 3 dead people back to life, Peter raised Dorcas aka Tabitha Acts 9:36-42, and Paul raised Eutychus Acts 20:7-12.*),

to another **prophecy** (*Example: speaking by the spirit of God. Revelation 19:10: The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*),

to another **distinguishing between spirits** (Example: *You can distinguish between true and false teachings, e.g. spirit of witchcraft or holy spirit. Acts 16 Paul stopped a slave girl with a spirit of divination. She said the right thing in Acts 16:17: “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved” – but by the wrong spirit.*),

to another speaking in different **kinds of tongues** (Example: [see Teaching on tongues below](#)) to still another **the interpretation of tongues** (Example: *You receive by revelation the meaning of a tongue*).

TEACHING ON TONGUES

Speaking in tongues is for everyone!

Jesus said in Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;...

Paul said in 1 Cor. 14:5 I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.

Benefits of speaking in tongues.

1. WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO PRAY, BUT THE SPIRIT DOES.

Romans 8:26 -27 In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

2. YOU BUILD YOURSELF UP.

Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

1. Corinthians 14:4

Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.

3. YOU BUILD OTHERS UP.

1. Cor 14:10-19 There are, it may be, so many kinds of languages in the world, and none of them is without significance. 11 Therefore, if I do not know the meaning of the language, I shall be a foreigner to him who speaks, and he who speaks will be a foreigner to me. 12 **Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel.** 13 **Therefore let him who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.** 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. 16 Otherwise, if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say “Amen” at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say? 17 For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified. 18 I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all; 19 yet in the church I would rather speak five words with my understanding, that I may teach others also, than ten thousand words in a tongue.

1. Cor 14:26-28 How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, **has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation.** Let all things be done **for edification.** ²⁷ If anyone speaks in a tongue, *let there be* two or at the most three, *each* in turn, and let one interpret. ²⁸ But if there is no interpreter, let him keep silent in church, and let him speak to himself and to God.

When speaking in tongues, what often follows as “Interpretation” is a message:

1. Corinthians 12:7-8 To each person has been given the ability to manifest the Spirit for the common good. To one has been given a **message of wisdom by the Spirit**; to another the ability to **speak with knowledge according to the same spirit.**

4. YOU MAGNIFY AND PRAISE GOD WHILE SPEAKING IN TONGUES.

Acts 10:45 All the circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and magnifying God. Then Peter said, 47 “Can anyone withhold the water to baptize these people?”

1 Cor. 14:15 So what is to be done? I will pray with the spirit, but I will also pray with the mind. I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will also sing praise with the mind.

5. YOU SPEAK TO GOD.

1 Corinthians 14:2

²For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. (Mysteries belong to God, Revelation belongs to us. Those who seek shall find.)

6. YOU RECEIVE REVELATION FROM GOD.

Isaiah 28:9-11

“To whom will he teach knowledge, and to whom will he explain the message? Those who are weaned from the milk, those taken from the breast? ¹⁰ For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.”

How do we start speaking in tongues?

1. Worshipping in unity.

Acts 2:1-4 describes the early church speaking in tongues in Jerusalem.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2. While the gospel was preached.

Acts 10:44-48 the household of Cornelius started speaking in tongues:

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” ⁴⁸ So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

3. Laying on of hands.

Acts 19:5-6 When they (ML: believers in Ephesus who were not baptized in the name of Jesus) heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. ⁷ Now the men were about twelve in all.

4. As a spiritual gift (ask, believe, receive).

1 Cor 14:1-4 Follow the way of love and **eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit**, especially prophecy. **2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.** **3** But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. **4** Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church. **5** I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.

Luke 11:9-13 ⁹ “So I say to you: **Ask and it will be given to you**; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**”

Conclusion: Everyone should be praying in the holy spirit. It is the most powerful prayer as it originates with God and brings back Revelation from God by the Holy Spirit. As we pray in the holy spirit the spirit ascends into the supernatural heavenly realm where everything becomes possible!

3 CONTINUED: WHICH SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE?

Romans 12:6-8 ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is **prophesying**, then prophecy in accordance with your **faith**; ⁷ if it is **serving**, then serve; if it is **teaching**, then teach; ⁸ if it is to **encourage**, then give encouragement; if it is **giving**, then **give** generously; if it is to **lead**, do it diligently; if it is to **show mercy**, do it cheerfully.

Romans 12:13 and 1 Peter 4:9 We are called to show **hospitality**.

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that **miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations*, varieties of tongues**.

*The **gift of administration** mentioned above in Greek means "to steer a ship. Individuals with this gift are often seen as **leaders** who can guide the church toward its goals.

Acts 1:8 speaks about the **power to witness**.

Isaiah 11:2 prophesies about Jesus, and he mentions what the Holy Spirit does for Jesus. And what the spirit did for Jesus, he can also do for us – if we seek after him.

The **Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—**

the Spirit of **wisdom** and of **understanding**,

the Spirit of **counsel** and of **might**,

the Spirit of the **knowledge and fear of the Lord—**

³ and he will **delight in the fear of the Lord**.

Jesus quoted in Luke 4:21 that he is the fulfillment of the scripture given by the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 61:

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me,

because the Lord has anointed me

to **proclaim good news to the poor**.

He has sent me to **bind up the brokenhearted**,

to **proclaim freedom for the captives**

and release from darkness for the prisoners,

² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

and the day of vengeance of our God,

to comfort all who mourn,

evangelist

healing

deliverance

deliverance

evangelist

prophet/evangelist

healing

³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes
the oil of joy
instead of mourning,
and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.

**encouragement/giving
healing**

**restoration and
healing anointing**

deliverance

4 DO WE HAVE ANY SAY IN WHICH GIFTS WE RECEIVE?

Yes, the bible tells us to ask and desire them and make yourself available!

Matthew 7:7 Ask and it will be given to you!

1 Corinthians 14:1 Follow the way of love and **eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit**, especially prophecy.

Isaiah 6:8 Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!"

5 EACH GIFT IS IMPORTANT.

1 Corinthians 12:21-26 ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²² On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴ while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶ If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

6. WHAT ARE THE GIFTS FOR?

Romans 1:12 that we are mutually encouraged by each other's faith

Romans 12:6-8; Ephesians 4:12 they benefit the body:

We receive wisdom, healing, knowledge, teachings, power, etc.

7. SERVANTS OF GOD ARE A GIFT TO THE BODY AS WELL.

Ephesians 4:11-

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **pastors** and **teachers**,

What is the purpose of a servant?

Ephesians 4:12-16 ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and **become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (the anointing)**.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we **will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ**. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work**.

What are some tangible results of maturity?

We read in Ephesians 4: attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (the anointed one).

Isaiah 61:3 They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor.

Mark 16:17-18¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they **cast out devils**; they shall **speak with new tongues**;¹⁸ They shall **take up serpents**; and if they **drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them**; they **shall lay hands on the sick**, and they shall recover.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

8. HOW SHOULD WE SERVE? HOW SHOULD WE USE OUR GIFTS?

Philippians 2:3-4 **Do nothing from selfish ambition** or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, **do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Romans 12:10¹⁰ Be devoted to one another **in love**. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, **serving the Lord**.

Colossians 3:23-24 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance.

1 Corinthians 13 – If we don't have love, we are nothing

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have **love**, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a **faith** that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. ⁸ Love never fails.

9. SPIRITUAL GIFTS CAN BE IMPARTED.

Romans 1:11-12 (Paul speaking)

¹¹ For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established— ¹² that is, that I may be encouraged together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.

10. WE ARE COMMANDED TO USE OUR GIFTS.

1 Peter 4:10-11

¹⁰ As every man has received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

¹¹ If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 25:14-30 The Parable of the Talents shows what happens if we don't use our gift.

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave **five talents**, to another **two**, to another **one**, to each according to his ability.

Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received **the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money.**

¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, '**Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.**' ²¹ His master said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.**' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, '**Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.**' ²⁶ But his master answered him, '**You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.**'

11. DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT.

Ministers pray with the students who don't know their gifts and allow the holy spirit to reveal them.