

Christian Foundations Series

Lesson 7 – The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gifts

We all have gifts and abilities whether we are followers of Jesus or not. Some are gifted artists, writers, musicians, cooks etc. However, believers are blessed by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, who provides us with spiritual gifts. These are gifts that are intended to be used to help build up the church and glorify God.

There are four principal passages which relate to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are as follows:

[Romans 12:3-8](#); [1 Corinthians 12:4-11](#); [Ephesians 4:11-13](#) and [1 Peter 4:10-11](#).

This lesson will examine these passages and discuss what they mean for us as followers of Jesus today.

Gifts in Romans 12:3–8

1. This passage mentions gifts like teaching, encouraging, giving, and leading. Which of these do you understand best? What do you think each of these mean?
2. Which of these gifts do you see most often in your home church or in your church community?
3. Are some gifts more noticeable than others? Which ones? Why?
4. How can people use their gifts with humility, and what might be the danger of pride?

Gifts in 1 Corinthians 12:4–11

5. This passage says there are “different kinds of gifts but the same Spirit.” What does this mean to you? Is there only one Spirit? Who is the Spirit?
6. Why is it important that people have different gifts? How do many gifts help the church body?
7. Which gifts in this passage are new or surprising to you?
8. How can people work together when their gifts are very different?

Gifts in Ephesians 4:11–13

9. This passage mentions roles like apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. Which role do you think is most challenging? Who do you know who is gifted this way?
10. Why do you think these roles are important for helping the church grow? What might happen to a church that is missing some of these leadership gifts?
11. What does it mean for a community to become “mature” or “strong in faith”? What could happen to a church that is “immature” or “weak in the faith”?

Gifts in 1 Peter 4:10–11

12. This passage says we should use our gifts to serve others. What is one way you can serve someone this week? How has someone served you recently?
13. Why is serving others an important part of spiritual life? Can you think of a passage where Jesus acted like a servant?
14. How can speaking or helping others bring glory to God, as the passage says?

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Understanding Spiritual Gifts

15. What do you think the phrase “*spiritual gift*” means?
16. Do you believe that we all have special gifts or abilities?
17. Why do you think the Bible talks about spiritual gifts?
18. In your opinion, what is the purpose of spiritual gifts in a church or community?

Personal Reflection

19. What spiritual gift do you think you might have, or what gift would you like to develop?
20. How can a community help people discover and use their gifts?
21. Have you ever seen someone use their gift in a powerful or encouraging way? What happened?
22. What is one gift you appreciate in other people?

True or False Questions:

1. **T / F** — The Bible says there are different spiritual gifts, and they come from different sources.
2. **T / F** — Spiritual gifts are given only for personal success, not for helping others.
3. **T / F** — Romans 12 teaches that people should use their gifts with humility.
4. **T / F** — Ephesians 4 says that leaders in the church help believers grow and become mature.
5. **T / F** — 1 Peter 4 teaches that we should use our gifts to serve others.
6. **T / F** — 1 Corinthians 12 says that every person receives the same spiritual gift.

Vocabulary:

Spiritual Gift — a special ability given by God
Service — helping others; doing work for God
Faith — trusting and believing in God
Wisdom — understanding what is right and good
Prophecy — speaking a message from God
Leadership — guiding or helping others follow a direction
Encouragement — giving hope or support
Mercy — kindness and compassion
Apostle — a leader sent to share the message of Jesus
Evangelist — someone who tells others about Jesus
Grace — God’s kindness and help
Serve — to help others
Teach — to explain or show how to do something
Build up — to make stronger; to encourage
Humble — not proud; thinking of others
Faithful — loyal; doing what God asks
Strong — powerful; able to do hard things
Mature — grown; developed in character or faith