

# Spiritual Gifts



**I CORINTHIANS 12:1-11**

## *Review – Eph. 4 (titles/positions)*



- ***Apostles*** – founders of early church; saw & walked with Jesus; performed signs and wonders
- ***Prophets*** – messengers of OT; localized ministry; not the gift of prophecy
- ***Evangelists*** – one who proclaims the good news; NT were missionaries/church planters
- ***Pastor/Teachers*** – shepherd, teacher, overseer, proclaim & exhort sound doctrine

## *Review – Romans 12 (practice)*



- ***Prophecy*** – ability to “speak forth”/preach the Word of God
- ***Ministry (Service)*** – serving physically and spiritually in every area of the church
- ***Teaching*** – ability to interpret and present the Word of God understandably
- ***Exhortation*** – coming alongside one to encourage, edify, guide, advise, comfort, warn, strengthen, etc.

## *Review – Romans 12 (practice)*



- ***Giving*** – ability to give/share out of one’s own personal possessions with generosity, openheartedness, and simplicity
- ***Leadership*** – ability to “stand before” the church and family and earnestly lead
- ***Mercy*** – showing sympathy towards someone and using resources to comfort and strengthen

# *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:8*



- ***Wisdom***

- “word” = refers to speaking ability
- “wisdom” = ability to understand God’s will and make practical application to every day life
- Characteristics of wisdom - James 3:13-17

# *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:8*



- ***Knowledge***

- Ability to perceive and understand the truths of God's Word
- Special ability to study and discover the full meaning of Scripture (text, context, historical, archeological)
- Foundational gift for all teaching and preaching

# *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:9*



- ***Faith***

- Ability to trust God in the most dire of circumstances and beyond human abilities
- Special ability to lay hold on the promises of God Acts 27:22-24
- Jesus, Abraham, Noah, Moses, Joseph, Joshua, Elijah, George Mueller, Hudson Taylor, Lottie Moon

## *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:9b*



- ***Healings***

- Temporary sign gift
- Gifts for Jesus (Matt.8:16-17), apostles (Matt.10:1), the 70 (Lk.10:1-9) Philip (Acts 8:5-7), Peter (Acts 3:1-10)
- No one today can heal as Jesus and the apostles did.
- Purpose – authenticate the message



## *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:10a*



- ***Working of Miracles***
  - Temporary sign gift
  - Supernatural event that defies natural laws, explainable only by divine intervention.
  - “miracle” = power; same term used in casting out demons (Luke 4:36, 6:18, 9:42)
  - Demonstrated by Stephen and Philip (Acts 6:8, 8:7)

## *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:10b*



- ***Prophecy***

- Temporary sign gift??? Maybe in presenting new revelation???
- Prophecy = to speak forth or proclaim
- Prophecy is a superior gift. 14:1
- The best definition may have been given by Paul (I Corinthians 14:3)

## *Specific Guidelines – I Corinthians 14*



1. Only 2 or 3 were to speak at a service, one at a time. v.29a, 31a
2. When one prophet speaks, the others were to judge/evaluate the validity of the message. v.29b, 32
3. New revelation took precedent over frequented teaching. v.30
4. Prophets were to speak one at a time. v.31a

## *General Guidelines – I Corinthians 14*



1. Women are not to ***prophesy*** in the churches. v.33-34
2. Women are to ask their husbands if they have questions. v.35
3. We are to subject ourselves to God's order of the church – “as the law also says”.  
v.34, I Timothy 2:11-14
4. Reflects a spirit of submission (Gen. 3:16) and humility before God and others.

## *Spiritual Gifts – I Corinthians 12:10c*



- ***Discerning of spirits (discernment)***
  - Discerning = to separate out through examination/judging to decide what is biblical
  - Able to recognize lying spirits
  - I John 4:1, Acts 17:11 (Bereans)
  - “watchdog” or church’s protector
  - Especially needed in the early church