

God has given us spiritual gifts for the benefit of the church. We are going to look at what these gifts are, who they are for, and how they are to be used.

In 1 Corinthians 14, Paul instructs this congregation on the function of spiritual gifts. He repeats several times that they are to strengthen and build up the church.

1 Corinthians 14:1 (NKJV)

Pursue love, earnestly desire spiritual gifts

Why should we desire spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 14:3-4 (NKJV)

3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

1 Corinthians 14:12 (NKJV)

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.

1 Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV)

All of these things must be done for the strengthening of the church

In what way are we to seek to excel?

1 Corinthians 14:24-25 (NKJV)

4 But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is convicted by all. 25 And thus the secrets of his heart are revealed; and so, falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.

Is prophecy just for the benefit of the church or is it also for the unbeliever?

1 Corinthians 12:11 (NKJV)

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV)

As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Acts 6:8 (NKJV)

And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people.

Acts 8:6 (NKJV)

And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

Who can have spiritual gifts?

1 Corinthians 12:8-11 (NKJV)

8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

What are the 9 gifts of the Spirit:

1. The word of _____

What is it?

2. The word of _____

What is it?

3. _____

What is it?

4. _____

What is it?

5. The working of _____

What is it?

6. _____

What is it?

7. _____ of spirits

What is it?

8. Different kinds of _____

What is it?

9. The _____ of tongues

What is it?

1 Corinthians 2:4 (NKJV)

And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.

Are the gifts of the Spirit the same as talents?

1 Timothy 4:14 (NKJV)

14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

2 Timothy 1:6 (NKJV)

Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

Hebrews 5:14 (NKJV)

Solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their (spiritual) senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Is it possible for a person to neglect a spiritual gift?

How do we know what our gift is?

When do we receive spiritual gifts?

Romans 11:29 (NKJV)

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Matthew 7:21-23 (NKJV)

21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Is a spiritual gift evidence of a strong Christian or a "man of God"?

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (NKJV)

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Ephesians 4:16 (NKJV)

from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

What is more important than the gifts of the Spirit?

1 Corinthians 12:23 (NKJV)

And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty.

Is one spiritual gift more important than another?

1 Corinthians 14:5 (NKJV)

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.

Is the gift of prophecy more important than speaking in tongues?

Romans 12:6 (NKJV)

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith.

What is prophecy?

How do we use faith to prophesy?

1 Corinthians 14:27-28 (NKJV)

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.

1 Corinthians 14:4 (NKJV)

He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

What reason is given for not speaking in tongues?

1 Corinthians 13:1 (NKJV)

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal.

1 Corinthians 14:2 (NKJV)

For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

What are the 2 different tongues mentioned?

1. Tongues of _____

2. Tongues of _____

What are tongues of men?

What are tongues of angels?

1 Corinthians 12:29-30 (NKJV)

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

What is the evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit?

Is there an “initial, physical evidence” of being filled with the Spirit?

1 Corinthians 13:10 (NKJV)

But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

Have some spiritual gifts ceased to exist?

Our desire should be that God will use His people in a powerful way to experience a life on fire for God through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

How should we let others know about our gift?

How do we work towards having gifts?