

**BELIEVE**  
*"Spiritual Gifts"*

**INTRODUCTION:**

- **QUESTION:** What do we mean by the term "*Spiritual Gifts?*"
- **ANSWER:** A Spiritual Gift is a divine enablement given to every true believer in Jesus Christ in order to serve the Church.
- **WHY?** The Spirit bestows Spiritual Gifts on the Church because the Church (Ecclesia) is charged with carrying out His Kingdom work in this age.
- The one over-riding purpose of Spiritual Gifts is to serve the family of God and enhance the Body of Christ, to reach the world with the Gospel.
- **John 15:26**
- Spiritual Gifts are Holy Spirit-empowered abilities given to the members of the body to facilitate the growth, edification, and maturity of the Church.

**I. SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SPIRITUAL MATURITY**

- **1 Corinthians 12:1-7**

**A. THE PURPOSE OF GIFTS**

**1. 1 Corinthians 12:1**

- a) "*uninformed*" - means to be ignorant concerning something

**2. 1 Corinthians 12:2-3**

**3. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6**

**4. Vs 7**

- a) Spiritual gifts are to flow through you to benefit others.

**B. THE UNITY OF THE BODY**

1. The analogy of the body is critical because we only have one body, and that body is made up of thousands of parts.

2. The Corinthian believers were creating disunity in the body by comparing gifts and claiming to be more spiritual.
3. Christ saved you with the purpose of ministering to His body.

## II. SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SPIRITUAL LEADERS

- Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-12

### A. THE LEADER'S ROLE

1. The job of church leaders is not to do all the ministry, but to equip the saints for ministry by helping them to understand their gifts.
2. Nothing can compare to the power that the body of Christ displays when spiritual gifts are being used under the authority of the Holy Spirit.

3. Ephesians 4:13-16

### B. THE BELIEVER' S ROLE

1. **VERY POWERFUL!!!!** The reason for gifts is to accomplish God's Program.
2. When we negate our Spiritual gift, we negate the program of God.
3. **QUESTION:** How is God working through you to strengthen the body?
4. **BIG QUESTION:** "Is Crossroads Bible Church better because you are in it?"
5. **ANOTHER QUESTION:** "How badly do you want to use the gifts God has given you?"

## III. SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SPIRITUAL SERVICE

1. Romans 12:1-8

2. Notice that Vs 1-2 deal with worship.
3. Worship always comes first and is always followed by service.
4. In Vs 1-2 we see surrender and a wanting to know the "**will of God.**"

#### IV. SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SPIRITUAL STEWARDSHIP

1. *1 Peter 4:10-11*

2. We use these gifts for the *Glory of God's Son*.

3. If you are a true believer and you are not using your Gifts for *God's Glory* you will never be fulfilled.

#### V. POWERFUL IMPORTANCE

1. *1 Corinthians 12:7*

2. **VERY IMPORTANT:** If they are not dynamically operating in the life of the local church, then the body of Christ is not being edified (built up), **REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH BIBLE IS BEING PREACHED.**

3. *Ephesians 4:11-17*

#### CONCLUSION:

1. **VERY IMPORTANT:** It's interesting that nowhere in Scripture are believers urged or exhorted to discover their spiritual gifts.

2. The discovery of spiritual gifts flows out of service.