

Message Series Program Notes: 1 Corinthians *Unity out of Division*
Spiritual Gifts Pt. 1
1 Corinthians 12:1-7
Tim Armstrong, Senior Pastor

“Perhaps no area of biblical doctrine has been more misunderstood and abused, even within evangelicalism, than that of spiritual gifts. Yet no area of doctrine is more important to the spiritual health and effectiveness of the church.”

John MacArthur

1 Corinthians. Moody Press. (1996).

“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be **uninformed**.”
1 Corinthians 12:1 ESV

Uninformed: (Greek: *agnoéō*)
“Ignorant, unaware”

Guidelines to Understanding Spiritual Gifts

- #1 The Scriptures must be the guide not **PERSONAL OPINION**.
- #2 The Scriptures must determine our thinking not past **CHURCH PRACTICES**.
- #3 The Scriptures must establish our doctrine not **PERSONAL EXPERIENCE**.

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What is and What is Not a Spiritual Gift

#1 SPIRITUAL(S) (vs. 1)

Περὶ δὲ τῶν πνευματικῶν

Literally: “*Now about the spirituals...*”

“Now concerning **spiritual** gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed.”
1 Corinthians 12:1 ESV

Spiritual (*pneumatikós*)

“Things characterized or proceeding from the Holy Spirit.”

When you became a believer God gave you special abilities for the purpose of serving Him
The Spiritual Gifts have a spiritual source. That source is the Holy Spirit
Spiritual Gifts are not natural they are supernatural

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#2 **GIFTS** (vs. 4)

Now there are varieties of **gifts**, but the same Spirit; 1 Corinthians 12:4 ESV

Gifts (*chárisma*)
“A gift of grace”

The Spiritual Gift Lists in Scripture

Romans 12

Prophecy
Service
Teaching
Exhortation
Giving
Leadership
Mercy

1 Corinthians 12

Wisdom
Knowledge
Faith
Healing
Miracles
Prophecy
Discernment
Tongues
Interpretation of Tongues
Apostle
Prophet
Teacher
Miracles
Helps / Service
Administration

Ephesians 4

Apostle
Prophet
Evangelist
Pastor
Teacher

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#3 **SERVICE** (vs. 5)

...and there are varieties of **service**, but
the same Lord; 1 Corinthians 12:5 ESV

Service (*diakonía*)
“Deacon, servant, service”

Why are the spiritual gifts given? To serve the church.
They are not for your own *glorification* but for other’s *edification*

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied
grace...” 1 Peter 4:10 ESV

#4 **MANIFESTATION** (vs. 7)

To each is given the **manifestation** of the
Spirit for the common good.
1 Corinthians 12:7 ESV

Manifestation (*phanérōsis*)
“To make visible, to make
known”

Next week:

How to identify your specific gift mix
How to use our gifts for the glory of God