

Message Series Program Notes: 1 Corinthians *Unity out of Division*  
Spiritual Gifts Pt. 2  
1 Corinthians 12:1-10  
Tim Armstrong, Senior Pastor

Review: What is and What is Not a Spiritual Gift

#1 **SPIRITUAL(S)**

#2 **GIFTS**

#3 **SERVICE**

#4 **MANIFESTATION**

Context is essential to understanding the function of the gifts today.  
The Corinthian Church (Acts 18)

Problems within the Corinthian Church (1 Corinthians 1-11)

The Influence of the Corinthian pagan culture and the Spiritual Gifts

## **The Spiritual Gifts Defined**

### **1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 28-31**

Paul does not give a detailed explanation of the gifts; rather, his purpose is to communicate the *kinds* of gifts operating in the Corinthian church. For example, notice how often Paul uses the word “another” (ἄλλος). To define the gifts we need to look at how they are used throughout Scripture; how they are used grammatically and how they are used historically.

### **Spiritual Gift Categories**

#### **Teaching**

Wisdom  
Knowledge  
Prophecy  
Discernment  
Tongues  
Interpretation of Tongues

#### **Signs**

Faith  
Gifts of Healing  
Miracles

#### **Leadership**

Apostles  
Prophets  
Teachers  
Miracle “Workers” (see vs. 29)  
Healers (See vs. 30)  
Helps  
Administration  
Tongue “Speakers” (see vs. 30)

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## #1 The Teaching Gifts

There are six teaching types of gifts mentioned by Paul.

All of them have their foundation in the Word or for the teaching of the Word.

### Context Reminder:

Why would Paul focus on the teaching gifts? The Corinthians had fixations with ecstatic and nonsensical utterances. Teaching is the furthest things from this type of practice.

### A. Utterance of Wisdom

For to one is given through the Spirit the **utterance** of **wisdom**, and to another the utterance of knowledge...

1 Corinthians 12:8 ESV

“**Utterance**” (λόγος)

“Word, act of speaking”

“**Wisdom**” (σοφία)

“Practical wisdom, skilled in the affairs of life.”

Wisdom is most often in Scripture as the ability to know God’s will.

(See, Matt. 11:19; 13:54; Mark 6:2; Luke 7:35; Acts 6:10; James 1:5; 3:13, 17; 2 Pet. 3:15)

Definition: **The ability to practically apply truths of Scripture to life.**

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## B. Utterance of Knowledge

“...and to another the utterance of **knowledge**  
according to the same Spirit...”  
1 Corinthians 12:10 ESV

“**Knowledge**” (γνώσις)  
“To know, to understand”

Knowledge is the ability to grasp the meaning of God’s revelation. It does not mean the ability to receive special messages from God.

There was a unique gift of knowledge given to the human writers of Scripture. That gift was for a specific period of time for a specific purpose. When the cannon was closed the gift ceased and a warning was given.  
(See Revelation 22:18)

## C. Prophecy

“...to another **prophecy**...”  
1 Corinthians 12:10 ESV

“**Prophecy**” (προφητεία)  
“to speak forth, to proclaim”

Prophecy is often misunderstood because the gift has two definitions  
“One who predicts & foretells future events as means of divine revelation.”  
“One who declares & forth-tells divine revelation.”

In the past, God used the predictive prophecy to confirm His Word prior to the Scriptural cannon being closed. Since the close of the cannon the predictive element of the gift has ceased (See 1 Corinthians 13:8).

The best way to understand the gift today is as a teaching or preaching gift for the edification of the church (1 Corinthian 14:1-4).