

# BELIEVER BASICS 101

## Session 5

### A Christian and Their Church (Leader's Version)

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#### Memory Verse

*“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality.”* Romans 12:10-13 (NASB)

#### Principles: Ephesians 4:1-16

1. **Christians in a local church have been \_\_\_\_\_ for Unified Service (1-6)**
  - a. Christians are expected to serve in a local church (4:1)
    - i. Can one grow in with God without gathering with other believers?
    - ii. *Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.* Romans 12:1 (NASB)
  - b. Christians are expected to serve a local church in love (4:2)
    - i. Why does a person loose out on when they do not participate in a local congregation?
    - ii. *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; 11 not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, 13 contributing to the needs of the saints , practicing hospitality.* Romans 12:10-13 (NASB)
  - c. Christians are expected to support the unity of a local church (4:3)
    - i. Why does a person gain when they participate in a local congregation?
    - ii. *Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.* Phil 2:1-4 (NASB)

- d. Christians are expected to service because of Jesus' service for us (4:4-6)
- i. Look at the different ways we are united into one
    1. Body – The family of believers - the church
    2. Spirit – The Holy Spirit, who activates the fellowship
    3. Hope – That glorious future to which we are all called
    4. Lord – Christ, to whom we all belong
    5. Faith – Our common doctrine and commitment to Christ
    6. Baptism – the picture of salvation
    7. God – who is our Father who keeps us for eternity
  - ii. *"I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. 7 "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You; 8 for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me. 9 "I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; 10 and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 "I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. 12 "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled. John 17:6-12 (NASB)*

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**2. Christians in a local church have been \_\_\_\_\_ for Unified Service (7-16)**

- a. Every Christian has been given gifts to us in their local church (4:7-10)
  - i. Is there a place for everyone in a congregation?
  - ii. What happens when a part of the body does not fulfill their function?
  - iii. Do you know your function in the Body of Messiah?
  - iv. *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. 12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are*

*many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18 But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. 19 If they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now there are many members, but one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; 23 and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable, 24 whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, 25 so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. 29 All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they? 30 All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? 31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts. 1 Cor 12:4-31 (NASB)*

- b.** The church has been given leaders to equip the saints for service (4:11-12)
  - a. Name people you know who fulfill these roles
    - i.** Apostles (Missionaries, ones who first preach the Gospel message)
    - ii.** Prophets (Preachers, ones who continue to preach the Gospel message)
    - iii.** Evangelists (Evangelists, ones who call for an invitation to Gospel message)
    - iv.** Pastors (Pastors, ones who continues to teach and help the people grow)
    - v.** Teachers (Teachers, ones who continues to teach and help the people grow)
    - vi.** The saints (Christians in the local church who are to exercise their gifts)
- c.** The church will obtain unity through everyone growing in knowledge of the Gospel (4:13-14)
  - i.** What causes disunity in a congregation?
  - ii.** What is the only proper way to have unity in a congregation?
  - iii.** How can you protect the unity of the congregation?

- iv. *Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; 28 in no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God. 29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, 30 experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me. Phil 1:27-30 (NASB)*
- d. The church will obtain unity through everyone growing in service for the Gospel (4:15-16)
  - i. How does one "serve" God through their local congregation?
  - ii. *So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience ; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. Col 3:12-15 (NASB)*

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**3. Christians in a local church are \_\_\_\_\_ to Unified Service (Acts 2)**

- a. We gather for service and worship (2:1)
- b. Christians gather in the power of the Holy Spirit (2:2-5)
- c. Christians gather to preach and hear preaching (2:6-36)
- d. Christians offer an invitation to repent from sins and trust God for salvation (2:37-41)
- e. Christians are a group of baptized believer, united in and for the Gospel (2:42-47)
- f. What do baptized Christians do together for service? A Church of Jesus Christ...
  - i. preaches and invites people to saved through the Gospel (2:38-40)
  - ii. is made up of regenerate, baptized believers who publicly confess salvation in Jesus Christ and demonstrate it (2:41)
  - iii. Devotes themselves to Biblical teaching (Bible Study) (2:42)
  - iv. Devotes themselves to Fellowship and breaking bread together (Service & fellowship) (2:42)
  - v. Devotes themselves to Prayer (Prayer meeting) (2:42)
  - vi. Is blessed by God with excitement, vibrancy, wonders and answered prayers (2:43)
  - vii. Support the needs of the ministry and the fellow saints with time, talents and treasure (give sacrificially of their 10% tithe, of their offerings above and beyond, and give to the benevolence fund to help out other Christians) (2:44)
  - viii. Spends time together at church, outside church, and loves each other (2:46)
  - ix. Praises God together (2:47)
  - x. Grows the Kingdom of God (2:47)

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### **Practice Assignments**

1. Read and write down any insights that God gives and any questions you have about the text.
  - a. Monday           1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1
  - b. Tuesday          1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2
  - c. Wednesday       1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3
  - d. Thursday         1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4
  - e. Friday             1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5
  - f. Saturday          1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1-5
2. Pray each day.
3. Take the attached Spiritual Gift Inventory and share the results with your teacher and pastor.
4. Tell someone this week about what Jesus has done for you and what He is doing in your life.
5. Participate in the worship service and take notes while listening to the Pastor's sermon about how you can apply the message that he preaching from God's Word in your life this week.

### **Memory Verse for Next Week**

*"Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;" Phil 1:27 (NASB)*

### **Coming Up NEXT**

Week 6) A Christian and their Character (How to Grow)

# Discover Your Spiritual Gifts

By Dr. Jensen Petersen

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My Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

This inventory is designed to assist you in identifying your spiritual strengths as specifically related to ministry and service in the local church. Its primary purpose is to help you to identify areas of ministry for which you are *most likely* gifted. It is not designed to be an exhaustive analysis of spiritual gifts, but rather to highlight areas of strengths based on what you feel spiritually motivates you. You will fill in a "score" on the worksheet in the box corresponding to the statement number based on the scores:

Score	How This Statement Best Describes Me
0	I am seldom or never this way
1	I am usually not this way
2	I am sometimes this way
3	I am this way most of the time
4	I am this way almost all the time

- Keep in mind when you score yourself that most of these are desirable traits for a Christian to have, and giving yourself a 0 or a 1 on a particular trait does not mean that you are unspiritual, but rather that it is not a primary motivating factor for you as an individual. The results of this inventory are for your information only. So, be honest and open in evaluating yourself.

## Gifts Analysis

After completing the following four pages, compute totals by adding columns down from the previous pages and writing total scores in the boxes below.

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ Administration
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ Apostleship-Missionary
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ Discernment of Spirits
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ Encouragement
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ Evangelism
- F. \_\_\_\_\_ Faith
- G. \_\_\_\_\_ Giving
- H. \_\_\_\_\_ Healing
- I. \_\_\_\_\_ Helps/Service
- J. \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality
- K. \_\_\_\_\_ Knowledge
- L. \_\_\_\_\_ Languages & Interpretation
- M. \_\_\_\_\_ Leadership
- N. \_\_\_\_\_ Mercy
- O. \_\_\_\_\_ Miracles
- P. \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor-Shepherd
- Q. \_\_\_\_\_ Prophecy-Preaching
- R. \_\_\_\_\_ Teaching
- S. \_\_\_\_\_ Wisdom
- T. \_\_\_\_\_ SPIRITUAL ALERT!

**My Top Three Gifts Are...**

1) \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

(Note: If you have a SPIRITUAL ALERT score higher than 4, speak with your pastor so he may help you.)

## Gifts Identification Worksheet (Page 1 of 4)

Place Scores in the Box Next to the Statement (0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; 4 being greatest)

1. I become very frustrated when there is little or no organization at church.					
2. I have a desire to tell people in other countries about Jesus.					
3. I quickly get frustrated when people do not see the truth in Scripture.					
4. I have an overwhelming desire to help others grow in their Christian walk, by both counseling them and being an example to them.					
5. People's need for salvation is constantly on my mind, heart and prayers.					
6. I have an above average ability to see what things could/should be done and to create plans to accomplish those goals to further the Gospel.					
7. I love and want to learn about different people groups and cultures.					
8. I see the motives, actions, and positions of people in definite terms, and can quickly tell if someone is saved or where they are spiritually.					
9. God has given me an above average ability to understand Scripture, how it applies, and ability to encourage people to apply it in their lives.					
10. I have a clear understanding of the Gospel and can effectively communicate it to people so that they understand it clearly and then desire to accept Christ as savior.					
11. I have an above average ability to develop, articulate, organize and execute effective and specific plans in the accomplishment of the long and short range goals of the Body of Christ.					
12. I have a desire, and an above normal ability to go as a messenger of the Gospel to people and places where it has <b>not</b> previously been.					
13. I have the above normal ability to perceive the motives of others and the sincerity within relationships concerning the church and the Gospel.					
14. I have the above normal ability to counsel, model, and encourage people through your personal testimony, life, and Scripture so that people are comforted and encouraged to action.					
15. I have an overwhelming passion and ability to share the Gospel of Christ publicly or privately with unbelievers in such a way that men and women respond to become disciples of Jesus Christ.					
16. Other Christians say I am very organized and dependable.					
17. I would/do enjoy going on mission trips around the nation/world.					
18. I can discern quickly the motives of other people in regards to the Gospel.					
19. I am constantly showing people how the Bible applies to their situation and encouraging them to follow the Biblical model.					
20. I look for and actively engage in telling people about salvation in Jesus.					
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>
<i>Add scores in down each column and place HERE →</i>					



## Gifts Identification Worksheet (Page 2 of 4)

Place Scores in the Box Next to the Statement (0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; 4 being greatest)

21. People admire my confidence and faith in God when I am in difficult situations.					
22. I am constantly looking for ways to give to the needs of Gospel ministries.					
23. I have an overwhelming desire to aid in the restoration of the wholeness of a person who is physically, emotionally, or spiritually broken.					
24. I love helping behind the scenes at church and don't need recognition.					
25. I desperately want other Christians to feel welcome, loved, comfortable and at home, especially those who preach, teach and do Gospel ministry.					
26. I never worry about the future, I have full confidence that God will act.					
27. I manage the money/resources that God gives me very well and know how to make the most of a little.					
28. I know the pain that others are in, and how they can be healed by God.					
29. I know how God uses me to help others in ways that they need it.					
30. I know how to make lost people feel welcome and comfortable.					
31. I have the above normal ability to envision with clarity and confidence God's future direction and goals for the Body of Christ in order to complete the Great Commission.					
32. I have above normal ability to give liberally to meet the needs of those performing Gospel ministry and support God's church with that which God has entrusted to me.					
33. I have an above natural ability to aid in the restoration of the wholeness of a person who is physically, emotionally, or spiritually broken, so that they may serve Christ as a witness for Him.					
34. I have an above normal ability to unselfishly meet the needs through practical service of those performing Gospel ministry.					
35. I have the above normal ability to reach out to others, especially those doing Gospel ministry, and welcome them into my home and life in a loving, warm manner, such that they feel "at home" and can relax.					
36. I am the first to take steps of faith before others believe it can/will be done.					
37. I tithe (10%) to my church and give generously above and beyond to the church and other ministries on a regular basis.					
38. People are drawn to me to help them through painful/spiritual situations.					
39. I would prefer jobs/tasks at church where I can help behind the scenes.					
40. If a stranger enters the room, I am one of the first to befriend him.					
	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>J</b>
<i>Add scores in down each column and place HERE →</i>					

### Gifts Identification Worksheet (Page 3 of 4)

Place Scores in the Box Next to the Statement (0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; 4 being greatest)

41. I love to study the Bible, and spend great amounts of time doing so.					
42. I desire to learn/speak another language to tell people about Jesus.					
43. I see where God's people need to go and how to lead them there.					
44. My heart breaks and I hurt for those who suffer for sharing the Gospel.					
45. God gives me the supernatural ability to perform miracles with the goal of people being saved.					
46. God has given me the ability to understand almost all I read in the Bible.					
47. I want to help people who speak other languages hear the Gospel.					
48. I have a God given and proven ability to lead people to an end goal.					
49. I know ways to help relieve their pain of those suffering for the Gospel.					
50. God has performed miracles through me to lead people to salvation.					
51. I have the above normal ability to discover, analyze, accumulate, systematize, and articulate ideas that are essential for growth and edification of the Body of Christ.					
52. I have the ability to speak to God and to others in a foreign language (i.e. French, Spanish, Russian, etc.) that is not my own language.					
53. I have the above normal ability to set spiritual goals, make decisions, and then communicate them to the Body of Christ, such that others will voluntarily follow and joyously work to accomplish these goals.					
54. I have the ability to empathize with those in need (especially those suffering for the Gospel message) and to manifest this empathy in such a way as to encourage those that are in need.					
55. I have the supernatural ability to create an event where a physical law is superseded (supernaturally) in such a way that it is perceived and draws the observers' consciences to conviction and to a relationship with God.					
56. I study Scripture for hours and hours each week.					
57. I want to begin or currently working on learning a foreign language.					
58. I have other Christians looking to me to lead them.					
59. I do things to help ease the pain of those suffering for preaching the Gospel.					
60. God performs miracles through me and others know and see it.					
	<b>K</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>O</b>
<i>Add scores in down each column and place HERE →</i>					

### Gifts Identification Worksheet (Page 4 of 4)

Place Scores in the Box Next to the Statement (0, 1, 2, 3, or 4; 4 being greatest)

61. I have a desire to care for Christians (both young and old) and help them grow in their relationship with Christ.					
62. I look for every opportunity to tell people what God says.					
63. I get very excited to tell others what I have learned in the Bible.					
64. I look forward to helping people see how God's Word applies to their lives.					
65. I believe that Spiritual gifts are of little or no importance in the church.					
66. People often look to me for spiritual insight, guidance, comfort and assurance.					
67. People often tell me that God has spoken to them through me.					
68. Other people say that I help them understand complex Spiritual subjects or topics.					
69. I can easily see how each part of Scripture applies to everyday life and to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.					
70. Things at my church seem to work well; I see no need to do/give more.					
71. I have the above normal ability to minister to an established group of believers by caring for their spiritual welfare holistically over the long-term.					
72. I possess the above normal ability to boldly proclaim God's Word such that people are convicted, consoled, encouraged, challenged or strengthened to obey God.					
73. I have the above normal ability to communicate information in such a way that the members of the Body of Christ understand how to apply spiritual principles to their own lives and ministries.					
74. I have the above normal ability to gain insight on how knowledge may best be applied to specific needs in the Body of Christ					
75. I do not need to regularly work with or learn from others.					
76. I want to minister to believers, caring for their spiritual welfare.					
77. I look for every opportunity to publicly and privately proclaim God's Word to the saved and to the lost.					
78. I regularly communicate information in such a way that people understand how to apply spiritual principles to their own lives.					
79. I see how God is working in my life and around me and I can tell others what He is doing and how they can be apart.					
80. I believe that I am doing everything I am to do, and I do <b>not</b> need to do more.					
	<b>P</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>T</b>
<i>Add scores in down each column and place HERE →</i>					

## Spiritual Gifts Explanation

In order for you to understand your gifts and how you are to use them as part of the body of Christ, you need to study in-depth about your gift and look for ways to engage it in your church's ministry.

Christ's created and commissioned His church to cooperate with Him in world evangelism. It is His design and His strategy to us Christians as messengers of His Gospel, (Ephesians 3:10-12, Matthew 28:19-20). Therefore, He calls each of us to contribute! (Ephesians 4:1) Every Christian is expected to contribute in their unique way. (Ephesians 4:7).

For you to better understand your gifts, you need to know the difference between a spiritual calling, a spiritual talent, a spiritual gift and spiritual fruit. Each of which is defined as follows:

- **A Calling.** A "spiritual call" is God's specific purpose for someone's life. While a call is often associated with pastors and missionaries (Jeremiah 1:5, Acts 16:10), every Christian has a calling (2 Timothy 1:9, Ephesians 2:10). A calling is God's specific will and assignment for each believer.
- **A Talent.** A "spiritual talent", while often mistaken for a gift, are both tangible and intangible assets that God gives people to perform work (Luke 12:48). These assets are independent of our salvation and can be used to further the will of God or be used for personal gain (Matthew 25:14-30).
- **A Spiritual Gift.** A 'spiritual gift' is a special ability given to us at our re-birth in order to aid in our calling and the administration of talents to bring about spiritual fruit. Gifts are spiritual 'tools' to enhance and aid in the production of spiritual fruit.
- **Fruits of the Spirit.** 'Spiritual Fruit' is the result, product or consequence of the Holy Spirit's action in one's life. The action begins with the filling of the Holy Spirit and the first fruit is repentance (Matthew 3:8). As a Christian grows and surrenders more control to the Holy Spirit, further fruits will become evidence (Galatians 5:16-24). The greatest fruit that is produced from a Christian's life is winning of new converts through evangelism (Proverbs 11:30).

Think of it this way...

The Plan	The Material	The Tools	The End Result
Callings	Talents	Gifts	Fruit

## Master List of Gifts and Definitions

### ADMINISTRATION (I Corinthians 12:28)

- **Explanation:** The ability to develop, articulate, organize and execute effective and specific plans in the accomplishment of the long and short range goals of the Body of Christ.
- **Examples:** Joseph (Old Testament), Daniel
- **Application:** Organize people and resources to perform and support evangelism, discipleship in caring out the Great Commission.
- **Caution:** Tendency to become controlling, fearful to relinquish power, control or leadership.

### APOSTLESHIP-MISSIONARY (Ephesians 4:11)

- **Explanation:** The calling and ability of God to be sent as a messenger of the Gospel to people and places where it has previously not been.
- **Examples:** Jonah, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Jesus, the twelve apostles
- **Application:** To take the Gospel message to places and people who have never heard.
- **Caution:** Tendency to move on to quickly, discouraged with things take time or do not happen quickly.

#### **DISCERNMENT OF SPIRITS (I Corinthians 12:10)**

- **Explanation:** The ability to perceive the motives of others and the sincerity within relationships concerning the Body of Christ.
- **Examples:** Moses, Paul
- **Application:** These people will help the body of Christ know who to support the Gospel and know how to proceed with the wisest and most Biblical way.
- **Caution:** Can over-analyze and “judge” people, hold grudges or think they know the whole truth.

#### **ENCOURAGEMENT (Romans 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to counsel, model, and encourage people through your personal testimony, life, and scripture so that people are comforted and encouraged to action.
- **Examples:** Jonathan, Barnabas
- **Application:** Encourage the lost to accept the Gospel, encourage Christians to participate and grow in the Gospel, and to encourage those in Gospel ministry to keep doing the good work.
- **Caution:** Temptation to encourage people when they need instead to be rebuked and disciplined.

#### **EVANGELISM (Ephesians 4:11)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to share the Gospel of Christ publicly or privately with unbelievers in such a way that men and women respond to become disciples of Jesus Christ.
- **Examples:** Noah, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, John the Baptist, Jesus, The Apostles, Paul, Philip
- **Application:** To perform the actual work of evangelism, winning people to conversion to Christ.
- **Caution:** Danger in not following up with conversions or encourage further discipleship, also a danger in taking glory for what God does.

#### **FAITH (I Corinthians 12:9)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to envision with clarity and confidence God’s future direction and goals for the Body of Christ in order to complete the Great Commission.
- **Examples:** Abraham, Elijah, Jesus, Paul
- **Application:** These people will be leaders of encouragement in prayer and assurance in taking new steps of faith in the Gospel.
- **Caution:** Danger in not acting to show the faith, or expecting God to just do all the work.

#### **GIVING (Romans 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to give liberally to meet the needs of those performing Gospel ministry and support God’s church with that which God has entrusted to you.
- **Examples:** The women who supported Jesus, The Philippian church, The Shunammite Woman who cared for Elisha,
- **Application:** To financially and/or physically support the Gospel and the ministry.
- **Caution:** Danger in giving and not asking discerning questions, danger in not prioritizing their giving.

#### **HEALING (I Corinthians 12:9, 28 & 30)**

- **Explanation:** These are presumably of various kinds since this gift is described in the plural form. Healing include both the supernatural ability to heal and/or the natural ability that results in the restoration to wholeness of a person who is physically, emotionally, or spiritually broken, so that they may serve Christ as a witness for Him.
- **Examples:** Elijah, Elisha, Jesus, Peter, Paul
- **Application:** These people have the ability to work to help heal people who are physically, emotionally, or spiritually broken in order to lead them to faith in Christ.
- **Caution:** Tendency to take credit for the miracle, also danger in not using it to share the Gospel.

#### **HELPS/SERVICE (I Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to unselfishly meet the needs of those performing Gospel ministry through practical service. It may be either ministering to the person himself or doing things to enable him to be free to do other ministries.
- **Examples:** David's mighty men, Moses' appointed leaders under him, Luke, The Philippian church, The Shunammite Woman who cared for Elisha, Onesiphorus who helped Paul
- **Application:** To physically help those doing the Gospel, like through transportation, prayer, set up, counseling, follow up, and other needed tasks that would free the evangelist and others to perform their tasks.
- **Caution:** Danger in overextending oneself, not prioritizing, not meeting their own families' needs.

#### **HOSPITALITY (I Peter 4:9)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to reach out to others, especially those doing Gospel ministry, and welcome them into your home and life in a loving, warm manner, while providing food and lodging, such that the guests feel "at home" in your presence.
- **Examples:** The women who supported Jesus, Mary and Martha, The Philippian church, The Shunammite Woman who cared for Elisha, Onesiphorus who helped Paul
- **Application:** To make guests feel welcome and loved and to help those doing the work of the Gospel relax and feel at comfortable.
- **Caution:** Tendency to be fearful not to offend and compromise on truth and doctrine.

#### **KNOWLEDGE (I Corinthians 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to discover, analyze, accumulate, systematize, and articulate ideas that are essential for growth and edification of the Body of Christ. This especially involves the ability to concretely expound upon Old and New Testament history as well as the history of the Church.
- **Examples:** Ezra, Solomon, Jesus, Peter, Paul
- **Application:** These people will be able to discover, analyze, accumulate, systematize, and articulate ideas that are essential for growth of the Gospel. They can be the starting point of new ministries or changes to existing ministries in light of Scripture.
- **Caution:** Pride. Knowing yet not loving, being insensitive to those struggling to learn.

#### **LANGUAGE & INTERPRETATION (I Corinthians 12:10, 28, 30)**

- **Explanation:** The gift of tongues (intelligible language) is the ability to speak to God and to others in a foreign language that is not one's native language.
- **Examples:** The Apostles, Paul
- **Application:** These people can work to interpret the Bible into other languages or act as interpreters when a missionary/evangelist comes to speak but cannot speak in the language of the people.
- **Caution:** Pride. Knowing yet not loving, not explaining what things mean.

#### **LEADERSHIP (Ruling - Romans 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to set Godly goals, make decisions, and then communicate them to the Body of Christ, such that others will voluntarily follow and joyously work to accomplish these goals.
- **Examples:** Moses, Joshua, David, Nehemiah, Peter
- **Application:** To lead others to support the work of the Gospel and to lead groups and churches to fulfill their roles in the Body of Christ with respect to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.
- **Caution:** Pride. Moving too fast, making decision without consultation, making assumptions.

### **MERCY (Romans 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to empathize with those in need (especially those suffering for the Gospel message) and to manifest this empathy in such a way as to encourage those in need.
- **Examples:** The Philippian church, The Shunammite Woman who cared for Elisha, Onesiphorus who helped Paul
- **Application:** To come to the aid of those in Gospel ministry who suffer because of the Gospel.
- **Caution:** Temptation to give mercy without seeing repentance, fearful to be rebuked/disciplined.

### **MIRACLES (I Corinthians 12:10, 29, 39)**

- **Explanation:** This gift involves an event where a physical law is superseded (supernaturally) in such a way that it is perceived by the senses and draws the observers' consciences to their relationship with God. This especially involved exorcisms in the New Testament.
- **Examples:** Moses, Elijah, Elisha, Jesus, Peter, Paul
- **Application:** God uses these people to work miracles in order to lead people to faith in Christ.
- **Caution:** Tendency to take credit for the miracle, also danger in not using it to share the Gospel

### **PASTOR-SHEPHERD (I Peter 5:1-4; Ephesians 4:11)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to minister to an established group of people (believers) by caring for their spiritual welfare holistically on a long-term basis.
- **Examples:** Moses, David, Jesus, the good priests, Timothy
- **Application:** They will use their task after souls are saved, to shepherd them and care for them, helping them grow in their relationship with Christ.
- **Caution:** Temptation to encourage people when they need instead to be rebuked and disciplined, danger in overextending oneself, not prioritizing, not meeting their own families' needs.

### **PROPHECY-PREACHING (Romans 2:6; I Corinthians 12:10, 28-29; Ephesians 4:11)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to publicly or privately proclaim God's word such that people are convicted, consoled, encouraged, challenged or strengthened. Another angle also involves knowing and speaking God's mind intuitively rather than, as with the teacher, deductively from scripture alone. Scripture is to always check this intuition.
- **Examples:** Moses, Aaron, Samuel, Gad, Nathan, Elijah, Elisha, Jonah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, Joel, Haggai, Zachariah, Malachi, John the Baptist, Jesus, Paul, John the Apostle.
- **Application:** They use their gifts to explain the Gospel and how the entire Bible points to Christ and His redemptive work and will also reveal what individuals need to do in response to truth.
- **Caution:** Pride. Knowing yet not loving, being insensitive to those struggling to learn.

### **TEACHING (Romans 12:7, I Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to communicate information in such a way that members of the Body of Christ understand how to apply spiritual principles to their own lives and ministries.
- **Examples:** Ezra, Jesus, Paul, Priscilla and Aquila
- **Application:** These will use their gifts in connection with Gospel ministers in aiding Christians to grow and develop their gifts to be used to accomplish the Great Commission. They will both teach about evangelism and how to do and participate in evangelism.
- **Caution:** Temptation to teach facts and not provide application, danger in all talk and no action.

### **WISDOM (I Corinthians 12:8)**

- **Explanation:** This gift is the ability to gain insight on how knowledge may best be applied to specific needs in the Body of Christ. This involves applying Biblical truths to everyday situations. It also involves special insight into the profundity and implications of how God is working in the world, especially to further the Gospel. Compare Romans 11:33-35 with I Corinthians 2:6-10.
- **Examples:** Joshua, Daniel, Paul
- **Application:** These people will be able to know how God is working and how people can get involved. They will also be able to give insight on how to reach a specific people for the Gospel.
- **Caution:** Temptation to wait until asked rather than offering valuable advice.