

## Knowing and Operating in Your Spiritual Gifts

**MISSION / PURPOSE:** To be of Kingdom Service, we "seek first the kingdom of God" and then strive to make a real difference in other people's lives.

*Finding Your Place In God's Purpose for Your Life*

### Session #5: Uniquely You and Designed for a Purpose PART 5

**Ministry Moments:** Have you had any ministry moments this week where you experienced a Holy Spirit gift at work? Either working through you to others, or others to you?

**Follow Up:** Are you working in the things you love? In the things you're good at, or great at? In the things the world around you needs?

**Session Focus:** Don't be uniformed about your spiritual gifts! (1 Cor. 12:1)

**Prayer:** Lord, help us understand the importance of spiritual gifts and how you've designed them to help us accomplish the purpose and plan you have for our lives.

**QUICK REVIEW:** of last week's important points...

- We are to grow up in every way into Christ, "who is the head." (Eph. 4:15b)
- The body of Christ, joined and held together by each able body. (Eph. 4:16a)
- When we're working properly, the body building itself in love. (Eph. 4:16b)
- **When we exercise our spiritual gifts properly, growth is the result.**
- Spiritual gifts are not the same as church offices. An office refers to a person, a spiritual gift refers to an individual enablement. A person could have the gift belonging to an office without having the responsibility of that office

Typical organization's growth curve – from startup, through growth, then stability, followed by maturity, and then death.



Long term sustainability requires all five, specialized efforts.

Apostleship	_____	Knowledge*	_____
Administration	_____	Leadership	_____
Discernment*	_____	Mercy	_____
Evangelism	_____	Pas. Shepherd	_____
Exhortation	_____	Prophecy	_____
Faith*	_____	Service/Helps	_____
Giving	_____	Teaching	_____
Hospitality	_____	Wisdom*	_____

**Which 3 gifts had the highest scores in the survey you took? (X)**

**If you exclude gifts, with an asterisks, which gifts come next to get you to 3? (Now number 1, 2, 3)**

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**NOTE:** This is a partial, selected list of spiritual gifts. Those gifts marked with an asterisks (\*) might be considered less active. However, they can assist greatly when combined with any of the other gifts God may empower you with.

As with all gifts, always ask God how He would have you use them for the benefit of the body of Christ. Never run ahead on your own!

**REMEMBER:** In contrast to natural gifts, talents, or strengths (which may also be marked by one's ease of exercise and competence) spiritual gifts are further characterized by serving one another as good stewards with God's strength, and by glorifying God in Jesus Christ.

**READ 1 Peter 4:10-12**

*"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."*

**SEEK CONFIRMATION:** Of the gifts in which you scored relatively high, which ones have been affirmed by unsolicited recognition from mature Christians? Place a check mark (✓) next to them.

Place a question mark (?) next to any gift you may need to seek confirmation on, and prayerfully seek it this week. (Your spiritual gifts may surprise you!)

**Spiritual Challenge:** – WE SERVE –

**If you could be highly effective, what area of ministry catches your imagination? Where would you really like to make a difference for God?**

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\_\_\_\_\_

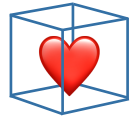
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## MEMORY VERSE

### God's Promise

**Jeremiah 29:11** (NIV)  
For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.



**Christian Spirituality:** Is the framework from within which we allow God's Holy Spirit to have His creative and transforming action on our soul.

Imagine 12 core values we can step into or "put on." – Eph. 4:22-24 [lines of the framework]

1. Rely on God's Way
2. Be Obedient
3. Be Forgiving
4. Be Truthful
5. Be Faithful, Trustworthy
6. Be Courageous
7. Be Giving, Generous
8. Be Humble, Meek
9. Be Hopeful, Helpful
10. Be Compassionate
11. Be Just, Righteous
12. Be Patient, Kind

Imagine 6 sides of the framework represent the active dimensions of a growing spiritual life.

1. We Worship
2. We Pray
3. We Study
4. We Serve
5. We Witness
6. We Fellowship