

# Spiritual Gifts Summary

What is a Spiritual Gift? .....1  
 Definition .....1  
 Original Gift = Jesus Christ.....1  
 How Do I Get a Spiritual Gift?.....1

What is the Purpose of Spiritual Gifts?.....2  
 Roles for All Christ-Followers .....2  
 Beware of Abusing Spiritual Gifts.....2  
 Benefits of Discovering and Developing Your  
 Spiritual Gifts.....2

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts.....3  
 Prerequisites .....3  
 Steps.....3

Using Your Spiritual Gifts .....3

Developing Your Spiritual Gifts .....3

Summary Table of Spiritual Gifts .....4

## What is a Spiritual Gift?

G	God's Son	Lord Jesus Christ
I	inside us	Holy Spirit
F	flowing through us	Firm Foundation
T	to speak God's Word and to	Various Manifestations
S	serve others	Various Manifestation

### **Definition**

A spiritual gift is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit in a person's life ([1Cor 12:7](#)).

### **Original Gift = Jesus Christ**

The Lord Jesus Christ was the original gift ([2Cor 9:15](#), [John 3:16](#)).

### **How Do I Get a Spiritual Gift?**

- Every Christ-follower has at least one spiritual gift ([Eph 4:7-8](#), [1Cor 12:7](#)).
- It is the Spirit who decides which spiritual gift(s) you get ([1Cor 12:11](#)).
- Because none of us deserves the gifts, we have no reason to boast about any gift He gives us ([1Cor 4:2](#)).

## What is the Purpose of Spiritual Gifts?

- God wants you to use your spiritual gifts to minister to others. Each believer has a special function to perform that will benefit others in the church. Just as organs cannot function unless they are part of the body, Christians cannot maintain spiritual vitality without participation in a local church [[1Cor 12:18-27](#), [Eph 4:14-16](#), [1Pet 4:10](#)].
- Regardless of which spiritual gifts the Lord gives us. He wants every believer to speak the Word and to serve Him [[Eph 4:25](#), [2Cor 6:1-4](#)].
- God wants you to use your spiritual gifts in a manner consistent with the Bible [[Heb 5:12-14](#)].
- Spiritual gifts without spiritual fruit are worthless [[Gal 5:22-23](#), [1Cor 13](#)].
- Spiritual gifts are not the same as natural talents. Only those who accept Christ as Lord get spiritual gifts. Sometimes your spiritual gifts endow your natural gifts with a supernatural quality. Other times, spiritual gifts are completely different than your natural gifts. All gifts come from God [[Jas 1:17](#)]. He wants us to use all of them to glorify Him [[1Cor 10:31](#)].
- The degree to which we mobilize our combined spiritual gifts will be the degree to which we are able to spread the gospel [[Rom 1:11-12](#), [Eph 4:12](#), [2Tim 2:2](#)].

### Roles for All Christ-Followers

God commands each of to **participate** in the following **roles** though we will NOT be gifted in all of them.

- Discernment, [1John 4:1](#)
- Evangelism, [Acts 1:8](#)
- Exhortation, [Heb 3:13](#), [Heb 10:25](#)
- Faith, [2Cor 5:7](#)
- Giving, [2Cor 9:7](#)
- Intercession/Prayer, [1The 5:17](#)
- Knowledge, [2Pet 3:18](#)
- Mercy, [Eph 4:32](#)
- Service, [Gal 5:13](#)
- Teaching, [Mat 28:19](#)
- Wisdom, [Jas 1:5](#)

### Beware of Abusing Spiritual Gifts

Study these passages to help you beware of abusing spiritual gifts.

- Focusing on the gifts instead of the Giver [[Eph 4:11-12](#)]
- Using gifts to control or manipulate others [[1Cor 12:4-7](#)]
- Claiming that a believer should have all the gifts [[1Cor 12:11](#)]
- Claiming to have the ability to give spiritual gifts to others [[1Cor 12:11](#)]
- Comparing your gifts to the gifts of others [[1Cor 12:12-18](#)]
- Using the presence of a particular spiritual gift as evidence of salvation or spiritually [[1Cor 12:29-30](#)]
- Using your gifts to impress others [[1Cor 13:1-3](#)]
- Thinking that spiritual gifts are evidence of spiritual maturity rather than looking for spiritual fruit [[Gal 5:22-23](#)]
- Viewing the discovery and development of spiritual gifts as unimportant [[2Cor 5:9-10](#)]

### Benefits of Discovering and Developing Your Spiritual Gifts

1. By discovering and developing your spiritual gifts, you will gain a sense of purpose and direction in your life. Using your gifts as God intends gives joy and contentment [[Eph 2:10](#)].
2. As you exercise your spiritual gifts, you play a role in building up other Christ-followers [[Eph 4:12-16](#)].
3. When you use your gifts as God intends, you bring Him glory [[1Pet 4:10-11](#)].

## Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts

### Prerequisites

1. Accept Christ as your Lord and Savior.
2. Be in good relationship with Christ ([John 15:4](#)).
3. Be willing to make an effort to discover the gifts God gave you.

### Steps

1. Ask God to show you your gifts ([Php 4:6-7](#), [Jas 1:5](#)).
2. Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through daily Bible reading.
3. Tell God your heart's desire related to serving Him ([Psa 37:4](#), [Php 2:13](#)).
4. Try different ministries.
5. Note what appear to be your abilities. Get confirmation from others that they see potential related to certain gifts.
6. Ask God to give you an opportunity to use the gifts you appear to have. Pay attention to how He uses you or redirects you during this experience.

## Using Your Spiritual Gifts

- To use spiritual gifts, you need to surrender your body to God's Spirit ([Rom 12:1](#)).
- You need to continually die to your fleshly desires ([Rom 8:12-13](#)).
- You need to continually fill your mind with new thoughts from God's Word ([Col 3:10](#)).

## Developing Your Spiritual Gifts

Once you are fairly clear which gifts God gave you, you become accountable to Him, yourself, and others to develop those gifts.

1. Pursue opportunities to practice and refine your gifts.
2. Find someone to give you candid feedback on how you are using your gifts.
3. Continue to learn about your gifts.
  - ▶ Ask God to show you examples in His Word.
  - ▶ Find others with similar gifts and work on improving your gifts together.
  - ▶ Become an apprentice to someone who can offer development opportunities and coaching to develop your gifts.
  - ▶ Find an apprentice to develop who has potential in similar gifts. You may find you grow tremendously by assisting in the development of another person.

## Summary Table of Spiritual Gifts

<i>Gift</i>	<i>God-given ability to:</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Traits</i>	<i>Possible Ministry</i>
Administration	Plan and execute procedures to accomplish ministry goals	<b>1Cor 12:28</b> <b>Acts 6:1-7</b> <b>Exo 18:13-26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop plans</li> <li>▪ Organize people, tasks, events</li> </ul>	Thorough, objective, organized, goal-oriented, efficient, conscientious	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planning teams</li> <li>▪ Ministry coordinator</li> <li>▪ Event planner</li> </ul>
Discernment	Distinguish between truth and error	<b>1Cor 12:10</b> <b>Acts 5:1-4</b> <b>Rom 9:1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Recognize inconsistency in teaching</li> <li>▪ Identify deception</li> </ul>	Perceptive, insightful, intuitive, truthful, decisive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ministry assessment</li> <li>▪ Assessment of teaching materials</li> </ul>
Encouragement	Present words of comfort to strengthen or urge to action	<b>Rom 12:8</b> <b>Acts 11:22-24</b> <b>Acts 15:30-32</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Help others trust in God's promises</li> <li>▪ Motivate others to grow</li> </ul>	Positive, affirming, supportive, trustworthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Deacon</li> <li>▪ Greeter</li> <li>▪ Prayer</li> <li>▪ Counseling</li> <li>▪ Pastor</li> <li>▪ Communications</li> <li>▪ Worship</li> </ul>

<i>Gift</i>	<i>God-given ability to:</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Traits</i>	<i>Possible Ministry</i>
Evangelism	Effectively communicate the gospel	<b>Eph 4:11</b> <b>Acts 8:5-6</b> <b>Acts 14:21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Clearly communicate the message of Christ</li> <li>▪ Seek opportunities to share faith story</li> </ul>	Sincere, candid, confident, committed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community outreach</li> <li>▪ Missions</li> <li>▪ Communications</li> <li>▪ Worship</li> </ul>
Faith	Act on God's promises with confidence	<b>1Cor 12:9</b> <b>1Cor 13:2</b> <b>Rom 4:19-21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Go forward when others hesitate</li> <li>▪ Trust God for provision</li> </ul>	Prayerful, optimistic, assured, inspiring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Prayer</li> <li>▪ Deacon</li> <li>▪ Counseling</li> </ul>
Giving	Contribute money and resources with cheerfulness and liberality	<b>Rom 12:8</b> <b>2Cor 8:11-12</b> <b>1Tim 6:18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Manage lifestyle to maximize giving</li> <li>▪ Make sacrificial gifts</li> </ul>	Responsible, charitable, disciplined, resourceful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Missions</li> <li>▪ Building Fund</li> </ul>

<i>Gift</i>	<i>God-given ability to:</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Traits</i>	<i>Possible Ministry</i>
Helps	Accomplish practical tasks to free up others and meet needs	<a href="#">1Cor 12:28</a> <a href="#">Rom 12:7</a> <a href="#">Acts 9:36</a> <a href="#">Rom 16:1-2</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See needs and step in to help</li> <li>Serve behind the scenes</li> </ul>	Available, willing, reliable, loyal, dependable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usher</li> <li>Classroom helper</li> <li>Assistant</li> </ul>
Hospitality	Care for people by providing food and lodging	<a href="#">1Pet 4:9-10</a> <a href="#">Rom 12:13</a> <a href="#">Luke 10:38</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a welcoming environment</li> <li>Host meetings in home</li> </ul>	Gracious, caring, warm, friendly, inviting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group host</li> <li>Greeter</li> <li>Ambassador</li> </ul>
Intercession	Consistently pray for others and see results	<a href="#">Rom 8:26-27</a> <a href="#">Col 1:9-12</a> <a href="#">Col 4:12-13</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feel compelled to pray</li> </ul>	Sincere, trustworthy, burden-bearer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prayer team</li> <li>Deacon</li> <li>Pastor</li> </ul>

<i>Gift</i>	<i>God-given ability to:</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Traits</i>	<i>Possible Ministry</i>
Knowledge	Learn, analyze, uncover Bible insights	<a href="#">1Cor 12:8</a> <a href="#">1Cor 14:6</a> <a href="#">2Cor 11:6</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study the Bible</li> <li>Create teaching materials</li> </ul>	Inquisitive, studious, observant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Curriculum development</li> <li>Teacher</li> <li>Research</li> </ul>
Leadership	Cast vision and direct people to harmoniously accomplish God's purpose	<a href="#">Rom 12:8</a> <a href="#">1Tim 5:17</a> <a href="#">Heb 13:17</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take responsibility</li> <li>Provide direction</li> </ul>	Persuasive, influential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry leader</li> <li>Group leader</li> </ul>
Mercy	Feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and act to meet needs	<a href="#">Rom 12:8</a> <a href="#">Mark 9:41</a> <a href="#">Mat 25:34-40</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address needs of lonely or forgotten</li> <li>Alleviate sources of pain</li> </ul>	Caring, empathetic, responsive, kind, compassionate, burden bearer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deacon</li> <li>Care-giver</li> <li>Community outreach</li> </ul>

<i>Gift</i>	<i>God-given ability to:</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Examples</i>	<i>Traits</i>	<i>Possible Ministry</i>
Prophecy	Reveal God's truth and proclaim it in a relevant way for correction, repentance, edification	<b>Rom 12:6</b> <b>1Cor 12:10</b> <b>1Cor 12:28</b> <b>1Cor 13:2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ See truths others fail to see</li> <li>▪ Confront sin to reconcile people with God</li> </ul>	Convicting, compelling, outspoken, authoritative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Teacher</li> <li>▪ Preacher</li> </ul>
Shepherding	Assume long-term responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers	<b>Eph 4:11-12</b> <b>1Pet 5:1-4</b> <b>1Tim 3:1-13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lead and protect those under their care</li> <li>▪ Provide guidance</li> <li>▪ Establish and confidence</li> </ul>	Nurturing, guiding, protective, supportive, influencing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pastor</li> <li>▪ Group Leader</li> <li>▪ Coach</li> <li>▪ Deacon</li> </ul>
Teaching	Understand, clearly explain, and apply God's Word	<b>Rom 12:7</b> <b>1Cor 12:28-29</b> <b>Acts 18:24-28</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Challenge listeners simply and practically with the truths of Scripture</li> </ul>	Teachable, practical, analytical, articulate, disciplined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Teacher</li> <li>▪ Preacher</li> </ul>
Wisdom	Effectively apply spiritual truth to meet a need in a specific situation	<b>1Cor 12:8</b> <b>Jas 3:13-18</b> <b>1Cor 2:3-5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Apply spiritual truth in specific and practical ways</li> <li>▪ Provide God-given solutions in times of confusion</li> </ul>	Insightful, experienced, practical, fair, sensible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Counselor</li> <li>▪ Pastor</li> </ul>