

L*esson*
16

Spiritual Gifts

“What are Spiritual Gifts and Why Does God Give Them?”



God has saved you to serve Him. He has gifted you for service. You must use your gifts which God has given you to be a blessing and a help to your local church.

LESSON 16

The purpose of this lesson is to acquaint you with the teaching of the New Testament regarding spiritual gifts. Then, you must begin to use those gifts to serve God through your local church.

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Faith Baptist Church

700 N. Main St., Sellersville, PA 18960

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INTRODUCTION

One of the great truths of the Bible is God wants to use us to carry out His work. The Bible teaches that God uses people to perform His work.

As Christians, God wants to use US. He could have chosen others who are more qualified, who have greater potential, but God wants us.

Not only does God want us to serve Him, but through this lesson we will see from Scripture that He has given us ability to serve. Spiritual gifts are special abilities which are given to every Christian for service and are something we did not possess prior to becoming a Christian.

We also possess talents which we have had from birth which can be used for God when we are empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Here are three questions every Christian must face:

1. What responsibilities has the Bible given us to perform?
2. What gift has God given us to use in service in our church?
3. What talents do we possess that can be used for God's glory?

In this lesson we will study about spiritual gifts. Let's look carefully at the principles given in this lesson as we seek to know what God has given us for service.

WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

Listing the gifts:

Here is a list of the passages which speak of the gifts given to the church.

	Ephesians 4:11	I Corinthians 12:8-10	I Corinthians 12:28-30	Romans 12:6-8
1.	Apostle		Apostle	
2.	Prophet		Prophet	Prophecy
3.	Evangelist			
4.	Pastor/Teacher			
5.		Wisdom		
6.		Knowledge		
7.			Teacher	Teaching
8.				Exhortation
9.		Faith		
10.		Healing	Healing	
11.		Work Miracles	Work Miracles	
12.		Distinguish Spirits		
13.				Service
14.				Giving
15.			Helper	Helper
16.				Mercy
17.			Administration	Ruler
18.		Tongues	Tongues	
19.		Interpret Tongues	Interpret Tongues	

Evaluating the Gifts

There are some important concepts we must understand in considering the gifts given to the Church.

1. Several gifts were temporary and were used in the establishment of the Church.
 - a. Some gifts were given because early Christians did not have the New Testament. Thus, there were temporary gifts given to provide the New Testament.
 - b. These gifts ceased once the Church was established and operating.
2. Some of the gifts were permanent and continue today for the operation of the Church.
3. Below is a list showing the divisions between temporary and permanent gifts:

Temporary Gifts

Permanent Gifts

**For the Establishment
Of the Church**

**For the Operation
of the Church**

Revelatory	Miraculous		Offices	Practices
Apostle	Apostle		Evangelist	
Prophet			Pastor/Teacher	
			Deacon	
Wisdom				Teaching
Knowledge				Service
Faith	Faith			Giving
	Healing			Helping
	Miracles			Administration
Prophecy				Mercy
Tongues				
Interpret Tongues				

4. Read I Corinthians 13:8. Is tongues a permanent or temporary gift?

Discipleship—Spiritual Gifts

2. Who is the One who determines what gifts you receive?

3. According to Ephesians 4:13, what is the result of your proper use of gifts?

SUMMARY

1. Spiritual gifts enable the church to accomplish the tasks God wants done.

2. Diversity of gifts allow the church to function as a unit.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SERVICE?

1. The presence of service should indicate salvation.
(*Ephesians 2:10*)

It is possible to serve God without knowing Him, but you cannot know Him and not serve Him.

2. Service is a means of growth.

We must balance what we put into our life and what we put out. Both will enable us to grow. (*Colossians 1:10-11*)

3. Service enables those to whom we minister to be blessed by our ministry. (*II Corinthians 1:3-4*)

4. Service glorifies God. (*I Corinthians 10:31*)

CONCLUSION

Knowing and using our gifts and talents to serve God will enable us to have a ministry that is both fruitful and fulfilling. Our life can be used of God to help others grow in their relationship to Christ. Nothing will bring more delight than knowing we made a difference in this world by using what God has given us for His glory.

Write down any questions you may have regarding this lesson.

