

# **KNOW** **YOUR DESIGN** Spiritual Gifts

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

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DESIGNED  
to SERVE

Published by: Designed to Serve™  
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Printed in the United States of America  
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## Session 1

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# Spiritual Gifts, Part One

### 1 Corinthians 12:7,11b

“To each one”

“A manifestation of the Spirit”

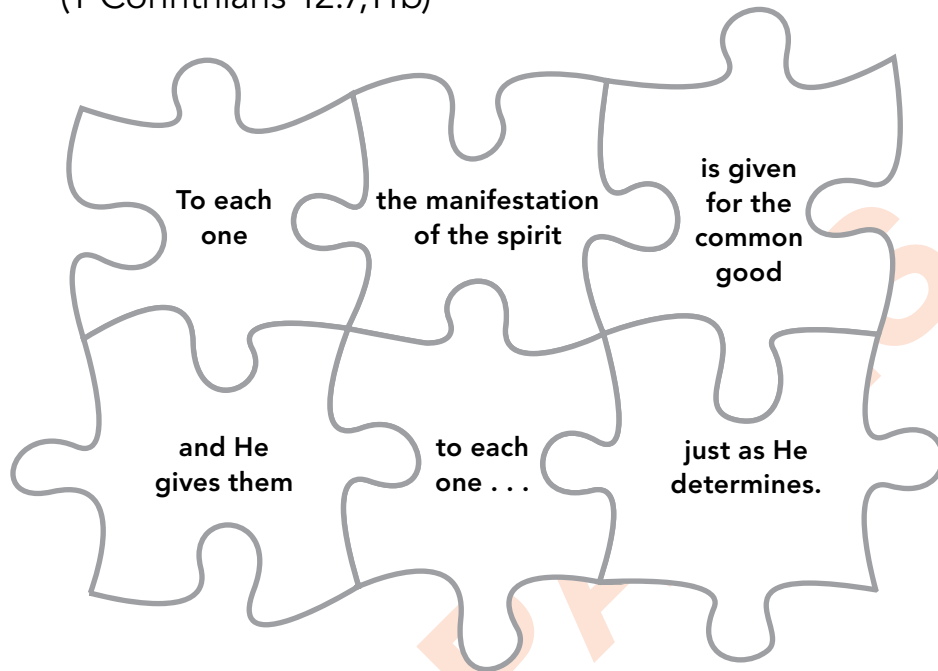
“For the common good”

“Just as He determines”



## The Biblical Definition

(1 Corinthians 12:7,11b)



## What is a Spiritual Gift?

The spiritual gift is the Holy Spirit Himself. He chooses to manifest [reveal] Himself through our ministry however He chooses.

Think of a diamond. It has many different facets. Each facet is a beautiful reflection of the diamond as a whole. The Holy Spirit is the diamond and the various spiritual gifts are the facets of the diamond.

Spiritual gifts are like facets of a diamond. The various gifts are different “facets” of the Holy Spirit.



# Spiritual Gifts vs. Abilities

Quick! What's the difference between caffeinated and decaffeinated coffee? Hmm . . . Is that a trick question? Obviously, the difference is the presence of absence or absence of caffeine. Both come from the coffee bean; both impact the body. But the impact of caffeine is far more powerful.

This analogy applies to spiritual gifts. The difference between gifts and abilities is who is doing the work – the Holy Spirit or you? The chart below summarizes the differences between them.

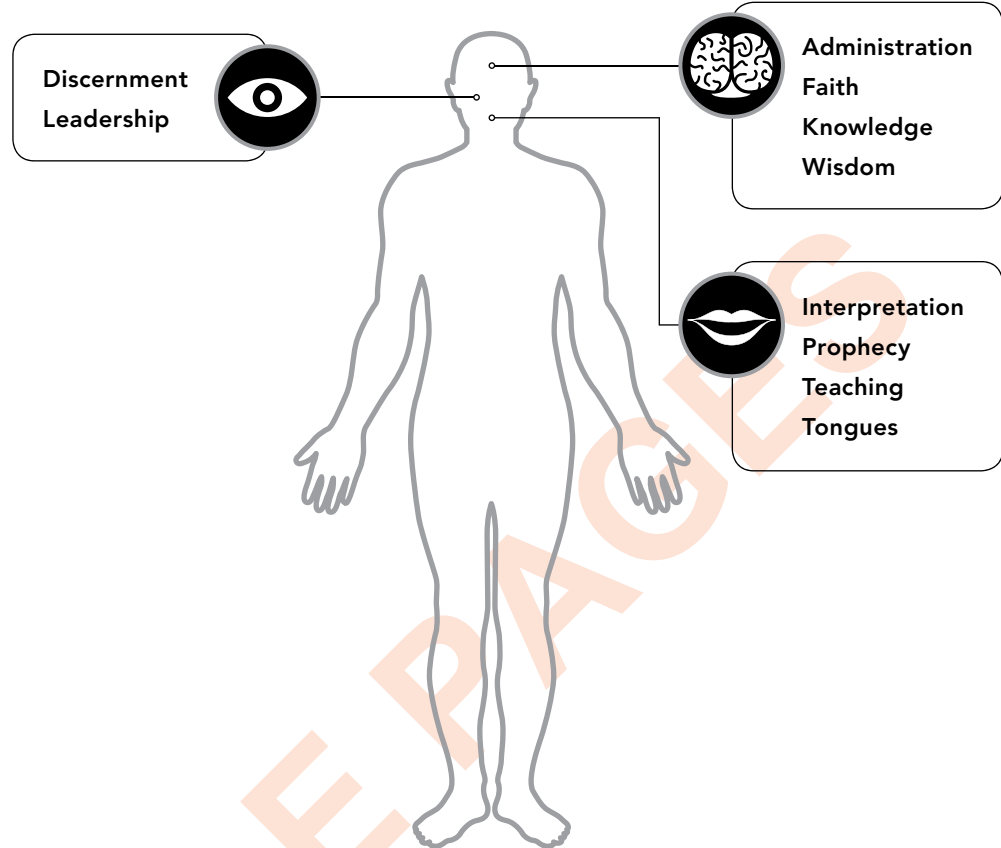
## SIMILARITIES

- God **gave** you both abilities and gifts.
- God **uses** both for his purposes.

## DIFFERENCES

- Abilities are given at birth; gifts are given at conversion.
- Everyone has abilities; only Christians have spiritual gifts.
- With abilities, you do the work
- With gifts, the Holy Spirit does the work through you

## Spiritual Gifts ≈ Body



## Spiritual Gifts ≈ Brain



### FUNCTION OF BRAIN

The brain gathers information from the past and present to prepare for and respond to the future.

It organizes information in a logical manner to retrieve it as needed to make decisions.

### Administration

Develop goals, strategies & plans to realize vision

### Faith

Believe that what is envisioned will happen

### Knowledge

Store facts to be retrieved at the moment needed

### Wisdom

Apply facts to situations to make sensible decisions

# Spiritual Gifts #1

## CARD SORTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read each spiritual gift card one at a time.
2. Ask yourself, *"Have I seen God work through me in this way?"*
3. Make 2 piles – one for "Yes" answers; the other for "No" answers.
4. Place a check mark [✓] in one of the boxes at the top of each "Yes" card.
5. Put all the cards back together to make one pile.
6. Sort the cards a second time. Ask, *"Am I energized by this activity?"*
7. Make 2 piles – one for "Yes" answers; the other for "No" answers.
8. Place a check mark [✓] in one of the boxes at the top of each "Yes" card.
9. Put all the cards back together to make one pile.
10. Sort the cards a final time. Ask, *"Have others been impacted by this activity beyond my own abilities?"*
11. Make 2 piles – one for "Yes" answers; the other for "No" answers.
12. Place a check mark [✓] in one of the boxes at the top of each "Yes" card.
13. Put all the cards back together to make one pile.
14. Sort the cards into 4 piles: cards with 3 checks, 2 checks, 1 check, and no checks.
15. Put the cards with 3 checks in rank order. If you don't have 3 checks, use the 2 check pile.
16. Record the top 3 gifts from this session.

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS, PART 1

### ADMINISTRATION

**DEFINITION:** To pilot, guide or steer

**ROLE:** To chart the course for the church

**EXAMPLE:** Moses was tired. His father-in-law Jethro suggested a plan to delegate responsibilities to others. ~Ex 18

**QUESTIONS:** Has God worked through you to . . .

- Determine the best way to complete a church project?
- Establish goals, timelines & assignments to complete a project?
- To bring order out of chaos in a church project?



## SPIRITUAL GIFTS, PART 1

### FAITH

**DEFINITION:** To firmly believe that God is trustworthy

**ROLE:** To see God's vision and trust Him to fulfill it

**EXAMPLE:** Jesus told Peter to get out of the boat & walk on water.

Peter obeyed & actually walked on water. ~Matt 14:22-32

**QUESTIONS:** Has God worked through you to . . .

- Believe God will fulfill His promise & He does it?
- Trust that when God doesn't do something now, someday He will?
- Believe steadfastly that God will fulfill His promises without fail?



## SPIRITUAL GIFTS, PART 2

### GIVING

**DEFINITION:** To share, supply or donate

**ROLE:** To be God's channel for providing needed resources

**EXAMPLE:** Barnabas sold his land gave the money to the church in Jerusalem to help the needy among them. ~Acts 4:32-37

**QUESTIONS:** Has God worked through you to . . .

- Provide the church with material resources needed for ministry?
- Help the needy anonymously without credit or fanfare?
- Share your resources with willingly & joyfully?



## SPIRITUAL GIFTS, PART 2

### SHEPHERDING

**DEFINITION:** To guide, nurture and protect a flock

**ROLE:** To care for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers

**EXAMPLE:** Paul sent Timothy to Ephesus to oversee the church he established there. ~1 Tim 1:1-7

**QUESTIONS:** Has God worked through you to . . .

- Oversee the spiritual life of group of believers on a long-term basis?
- Look after, nurture, guide & protect a group of believers?
- Serve as an example, build relationships & provide guidance?



## AUDIENCE

**Leaders**  
Groups of People



## MINISTRY

**Communications  
& Graphic Arts**  
Operations



## AUDIENCE

**Legal / Justice System**  
Social Institutions

**EXAMPLES:**

Legal aid for the poor, Legal aid for Christians under attack,  
Fellowship among Christian attorneys



## MINISTRY

**Junior High**  
Student Ministries



## AUDIENCE

**Marriage & the Family**  
Social Institutions

**EXAMPLES:**

Marriage enrichment, Parenting skills,  
Divorce Recovery



## MINISTRY

**Food Pantry / Soup Kitchen**  
**Housing**  
Care

