

What are Spiritual Gifts?





Who can have a spiritual gift? (Ephesians 4:7-13)

- You are a gift! “God gives gift ... men, to be apostles, teachers...”
- Each person is a gift to the church, and everybody can have spiritual gifts



Barriers to Spiritual gifts

- Fear – What might happen if I start using a gift? What if I don't like a gift?
- 2. Abuse – Some have misused spiritual gifts to control, manipulate or for their own glory. This can hurt – Spiritual gifts don't always go with maturity
- 3. Seen as wacky – Sometimes things can seem weird to people, Gift of tongues, Prophecy

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit has been given for the common God. 1 Corinthians 12:7

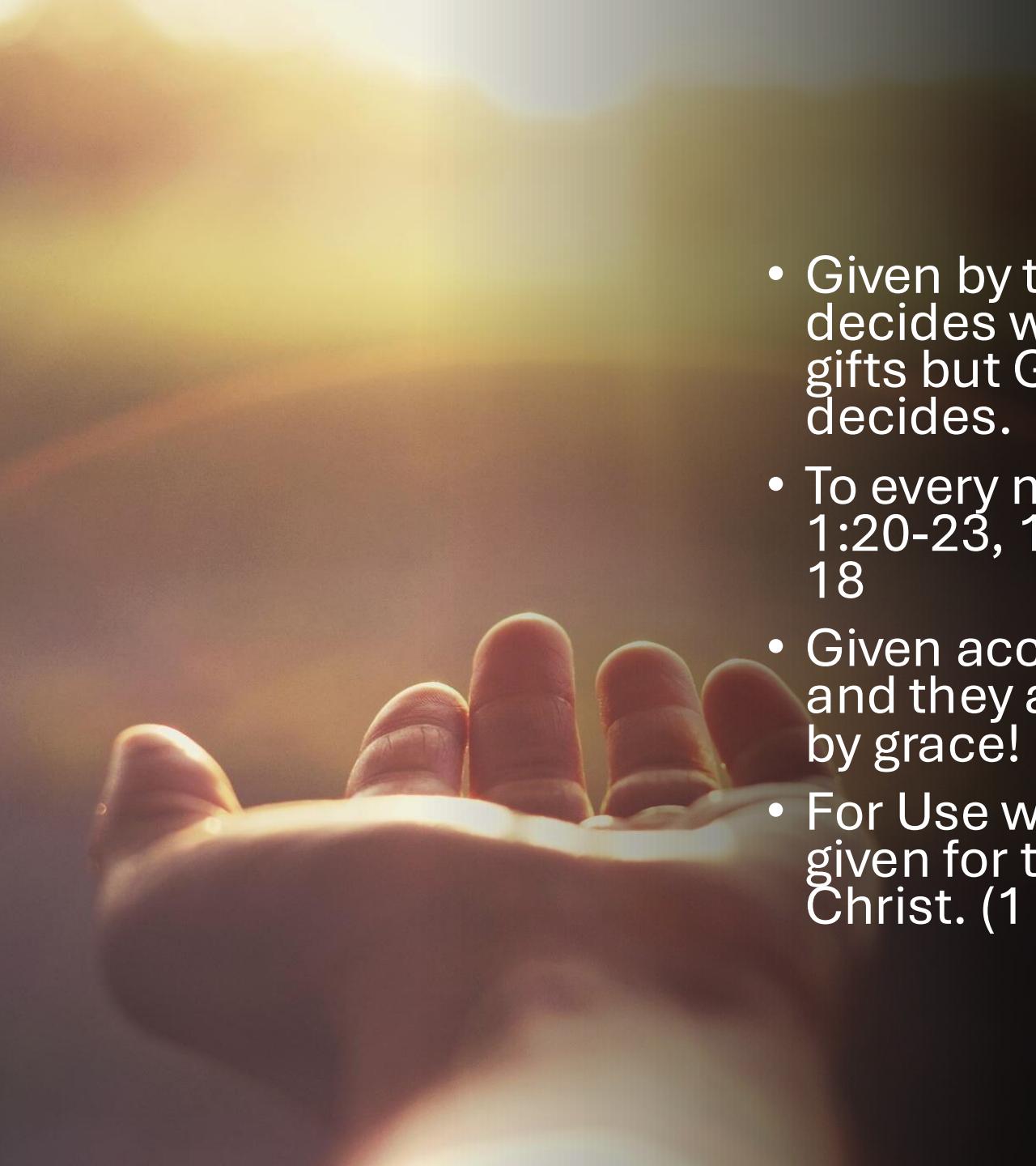


Ephesians 4:12-13 – Service, Maturity, Unity

What is a spiritual gift?

“A Spiritual Gift is a special attribute given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the body of Christ according to God’s grace for use within the context of the Body” – (Peter Wagner, Your spiritual gift can help your church grow)

- A Special Attribute - An attribute is a quality, something that is inseparable from a person, part of who they are. This makes us a unique individual; we do not all share the same gifts or use them in the same way.



- Given by the Holy Spirit - It is the Holy Spirit who decides what gift we have. We can ask for spiritual gifts but God knows what is good for us, He decides.
- To every member of the Body of Christ - Ephesians 1:20-23, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, Colossians 1:15-18
- Given according to God's Grace - God gives gifts and they are a free gift which we can't earn – given by grace!
- For Use within the Context of the Body – Gift are given for the good of everyone in the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:7)

There are many gifts...

WORD GIFTS - Teaching. Exhortation, Prophecy, Evangelism, Apostleship, Pastor-Ing. Ruling.

- Word gifts clarify the nature, character, and purpose of God. They help us to know who God is and how we relate to him.

POWER GIFTS - Word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gift of healings, working of powers, discerning of spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues

- Power gifts demonstrate the power, presence, and reality of God. When these gifts manifest, you know that God is literally in the room.

LOVE GIFTS - Government (administration), helps, mercy, giving, hospitality

- Love gifts manifest the love of God tangibly in very practical ways, they are supportive in nature of both people and other gifts.

(Paul Benger – Empowered)

List of Gifts in the Bible - Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 & 28-30, Ephesians 4:1

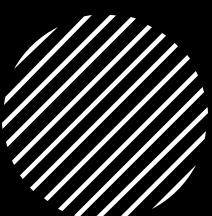
How should Spiritual Gift be used?

- In Love! –

Love Is Indispensable

And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.





Conclusion

- Do you know your purpose? You are a gift from God! He has spiritual gifts for you!
- Have you thought about what spiritual gift God has given you? Are you asking him for gifts or seeking to know?
- Are we seeking to build up the church – For the common good! In Love

