
Sermon Notes

June 19, 2016

First Congregational Church of Pomfret

A Gifted Church (Part 2)

1 Corinthians 12-14; Romans 12:1-8;
Ephesians 4:1-16; and 1 Peter 4:8-11

What Are My Spiritual Gift(s)?

- ❖ Who has God made me to be in Christ?
- ❖ How has He gifted me to serve Him by serving others?
 - are there particular concerns or burdens God is putting on your heart?
 - what tends to arouse compassion or excitement in you?
 - has anyone ever told you that something you said or did made a positive difference in their lives?

Two Categories of Spiritual Gifts

- ❖ Stand-alone gifts
 - speaking gifts (prophecy, teaching)
 - serving gifts (administration, giving, helps, service)
 - people intensive gifts (exhortation, evangelism, hospitality, leadership, mercy, pastoring)
- Gifts that are expressed through the conduit of other "supporting" gifts (discernment, faith, healing, knowledge, miracles, tongues, interpretation of tongues, wisdom)

Questions to Ask as You Learn About Spiritual Gifts

1. What local, global, social or church issues cause a strong emotional stirring in you? Is there an area of need which is of ultimate importance to you?
2. To what kind or group of people do you feel most drawn?
3. If you could not fail, what would you do in order to make a difference in other people's lives?
4. What are the most fulfilling moments in ministry that you remember? What brings you the most joy in serving?
5. The questions below are all "True or False" statements. If you are in doubt about the answer to any of them, please ask the pastor or one of the deacons to help you clarify your understanding about it.
 - a. Every Christian has at least one spiritual gift.
 - b. Unbelievers do not have spiritual gifts.
 - c. No Christian has all the gifts.
 - d. We cannot choose our gifts.
 - e. There is no one spiritual gift which every Christian possesses.
 - f. Believers will give an account for the way they use their gift(s).
 - g. Spiritual gifts indicate God's call and purpose for a believer's life.
 - h. Gifts used without love do not accomplish God's intended purpose.

Administration (1 Cor 12:28)

The divine enablement to understand what makes an organization function along with the special ability to steer the body toward the accomplishment of God-given goals and directives by planning, organizing, and supervising others

Discernment (1 Cor 12:10)

The divine enablement to distinguish between the truth and error by judging whether a behavior or teaching is from God, Satan, human error, or human power

Exhortation/Encouragement (Rom 12:8)

The divine enablement to come along side of someone with words of encouragement, comfort, consolation, and counsel to help reassure, strengthen and affirm those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith

Evangelism (Eph 4:11)

The divine enablement to effectively communicate the truth of the Gospel to unbelievers in a way that allows them to embrace the gift of faith and become followers of Jesus Christ

Faith (1 Cor 12:8-10)

The divine enablement to be firmly persuaded of God's power and promises to accomplish His will and purpose and to display such a confidence in Him and His Word that circumstances and obstacles do not shake that conviction

Giving (Rom 12:8)

The divine enablement and ability to contribute money and material resources to the work of the Lord with cheerfulness, liberality with no thought of return

Healing (1 Cor 12:9, 28, 30)

The divine enablement to be used as a means through which God makes people whole either physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually

Helps (1 Cor 12:28)

The divine enablement to identify needs and to know how to attach spiritual value to rendering support or assistance (*i.e.* time, resources, material goods) to others in the body so they feel loved and cared for

Hospitality (1 Peter 4:9-10)

The divine enablement to warmly welcome people, esp strangers, into one's home or church as a means of serving those in need of food or lodging and making them feel loved and valued

Knowledge (1 Cor 12:8)

The divine enablement to accumulate and analyze information effectively and to then apply that knowledge to specific needs and circumstances

Leadership (Rom 12:8)

The divine enablement to attract, lead and motivate people to accomplish the work of ministry

Mercy (Rom 12:8)

The divine enablement to be sensitive toward those who are suffering, whether physically, mentally, or emotionally and the ability to minister cheerfully and appropriately to them with words of compassion and deeds of love that help alleviate their distress

Miracles (1 Cor 12:10, 28)

The divine enablement to effect powerful acts which authenticate the message of Christ and glorify God

Pastor (Eph 4:11)

The divine enablement to lead, feed, care for, and protect individuals or groups in the body as they grow in their faith.

Prophecy (Rom 12:6; 1 Cor 12:10; Eph. 4:11)

The divine enablement to proclaim God's truth with power and clarity in a timely and culturally sensitive fashion for correction, repentance or edification

Service (Rom 12:7)

The divine enablement to identify undone tasks in God's work, however menial, and use available resources to get the job done with joy

Teaching (Rom 12:7; 1 Cor 12:28; Eph 4:11)

The divine enablement to understand, clearly explain, and apply the Word of God to others so they gain understanding and grow in faith, hope, and love

Tongues (1 Cor 12:10; 14:27-28)

The divine enablement to speak in a language not previously learned so unbelievers can hear God's message in their own language and be edified

Interpretation of Tongues (1 Cor 12:10, 14:27-28)

The divine enablement to translate the message of someone who has spoken in tongues

Wisdom (1 Cor 12:8)

The divine enablement to apply knowledge by discerning spiritual truth and God's will so that they effectively guide decision-making and daily life situations