

2/12/2023 - Speaker: Al Schaap

Series: Gifts

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12 (p. 1136 f.)

Message: Know What God Has Given You! (Part 1)

Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

Principle #1: When it comes to knowing what spiritual gifts God gave you for working with Him to bless our world, “ _____ _____ !”

Principle #2: When we rightly receive & use the gifts as The Spirit distributes them to all of us, The One spotlighted will be _____.

Principle #3: God created us with “natural”, God-given talents; and when He re-creates us He distributes His “supernatural” gifts to us – with a great deal of variety but _____ behind & through it all. There is:

- One Gift-Giving Spirit
- One Gift-Directing Lord
- One Gift-Empowering God

Principle #4: The gifts The Spirit gives us are not for our individual glory. They are for “the common good.”

Principle #5: _____ the gifts are needed – _____, too! And the _____ person’s, too! God’s Spirit doesn’t give unnecessary gifts! _____ both yours & the other person’s gifts as from God!

Spiritual Gifts Especially Helpful for Loving God

· Preaching (also known as “Prophecy”) - Ability to publicly communicate God’s Word in inspired ways that convince unbelievers and challenge & comfort believers. The ability to persuasively declare God’s will.

· Music - The ability to celebrate God’s presence through music, either vocal or instrumental, and to help lead the church family in worship.

· Creative Ability - Ability to beautify the place of worship for God’s glory.

· Giving - The ability to earn & manage money so it may be given to support ministry, generously contributing material resources even far beyond the 10% tithe so The Body may grow and be strengthened.

Spiritual Gifts Especially Helpful for Loving Each Other

· Pastoring (sometimes called “Shepherding”) - The ability to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers and equip them for ministry. Ability to nurture a small group in spiritual growth and help lead care for them.

· Teaching - The ability to educate God’s people by clearly explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn and be equipped.

- Exhortation (sometimes called “Encouragement”) - The ability to motivate God’s people personally to apply and act on biblical principles, bringing out the best in others & challenging them to develop their potential even when they’re discouraged or wavering in their faith.

- Wisdom - The ability to understand God’s perspective on life situations and share those insights in simple, understandable ways to help explain what to do and how to do it.

- Leadership - The ability to clarify and communicate the vision and direction of a ministry in ways that attract others to involvement. Ability to motivate others by example to work together in accomplishing a ministry goal.

- Administration (sometimes called “Organization”) - Ability to organize and manage people, resources, and time for effective ministry.

- Faith - Extraordinary ability to trust God for what is not yet seen & act on God’s promises, regardless of what current circumstances indicate. The willingness to risk failure in pursuit of a God-given vision, expecting God to handle the obstacles.

- Serving (sometimes called “Helps”) - The ability to recognize unmet needs in the church family and take the initiative to provide practical assistance quickly, cheerfully, and without a need for recognition.

- Intercession - The ability and commitment to pray for the needs of others in the church family, over extended periods of time, on a regular basis. The ability to persist in prayer and not be discouraged until the answer arrives.

- Mercy - The ability to manifest practical, compassionate, cheerful love toward suffering members of the Body of Christ.

Spiritual Gifts Especially Helpful for Loving His World

- Apostle - The ability to start new churches and oversee their development.

- Missions - The ability to adapt to a different culture in order to reach unbelievers and help believers from that culture.

- Evangelism - The expanded ability to discern opportunities to share Christ and lead people to respond with faith.

- Discernment - The extraordinary ability to distinguish between the Spirit of Truth and the spirit of error.

- Healing/Miracles – “Sign” gift(s) showing God’s power. The ability to sense when God is prompting you to pray for His supernatural intervention in “impossible” situations and see Him bring healing.

- Tongues/Interpretation of Tongues - “Sign” gift(s) giving ability to pray in language understood only by God and/or ability to interpret such prayer language. (The Interpretation gift must be present for use of the Tongues gift in a public context.)

- Hospitality - Ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed, accepted, and comfortable in your home or church family...or the ability to coordinate specific factors that promote fellowship.

Key: Ignorance is not bliss; Jesus; One God at work; all, yours, other, appreciate