

# FOUNDATIONS

## LESSON 51: THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Main Idea: God entrusts His church with gifts that bring unity and maturity to the church for His glory.*

### I. What is the work of the Holy Spirit?

- A. The greatest gift of the Holy Spirit is regeneration, where He unites us with Christ through faith. (Titus 3:5; Rom. 8:15; 1 Cor. 6:11; Eph. 1:13-14, 4:30; 1 Cor. 12:13)
  
- B. The Holy Spirit produces the life of Christ in believers and empowers them to be His witnesses in the world. (Gal. 5:22-23; Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:18-20; Eph. 4:30, 5:18; Gal. 5:16; 1 Thess. 5:19)
  
- C. The Holy Spirit gifts believers and churches with divine enablement to accomplish His purposes. (1 Cor. 12:1-11)

### II. What Do I Need to Know About Spiritual Gifts?

- A. A spiritual gift is a manifestation of grace given by the Holy Spirit to a believer for the purpose of building up the body of Christ, fulfilling the Great Commission, and bringing glory to God.
  
- B. It is not always easy or necessary to make distinctions between “natural talents” and “spiritual gifts.”
  
- C. There are some tasks that all Christians are called to engage in, regardless of unique gifting. (Mt. 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:7; Gal. 5:13; 2 Cor. 9:7)
  
- D. The Holy Spirit gives every believer one or more spiritual gifts which they should use. (Rom. 12:3, 1 Cor. 12:7, 12:18, 14:26; Eph. 4:7; 1 Peter 4:10)

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- E. Spiritual gifts are given primarily for the edification of others. (1 Cor. 14:4, 12, 26; Eph. 4:8-12; 1 Pt. 4:10-11)
  
- F. We must be on guard against temptations to pride regarding how we are gifted. (1 Cor. 12:14-26)
  
- G. We must diligently use our gifts rather than allow atrophy. (1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6; 1 Thess. 5:19)

### III. What are the Spiritual Gifts?

The NT list spiritual gifts in four passages: 1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28-30; Rom. 12:6-8; Eph. 4:11; 1 Peter 4:10-11

- The gifts of the Spirit can be divided into two categories: **speaking gifts** and **serving gifts**.
  - A. Churches should prayerfully desire God to bless the church with edifying gifts (1 Cor.12:27-31, 14:1).
  
  - B. Christians best discern their spiritual gifts by serving needs of the church in the context of community.
  
  - C. Are there some spiritual gifts that are no longer given to the church today?
    1. *Cessationism* – God has ceased giving miraculous gifts (sign / spectacular gifts) to the church today (Heb. 1:2; Eph. 2:20; 1 Cor. 13:8-12)
  
    2. *Continuationism* – God continues to give miraculous gifts to the church today (1 Cor. 13:8-12; Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Cor.14:39; Heb. 2:3-4)