

ADVANTAGE

SERMON SERIES



John 16:7, 13

“It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

... However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;...”

Spiritual Gifts

- (1.) What are they?**
- (2.) How do they work?**
- (3.) What are they for?**

But first...

1 Corinthians 3:11 (NLT)

“For no one can lay any foundation other than the one we already have—Jesus Christ.”

To be properly applied and understood they have to be rooted in and flow out of our picture of God in Christ Jesus.

#1. God wants us to value the gifts and to use them!

Romans 8:32

“He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

1 Corinthians 14:1

“...desire spiritual gifts...”

DESIRE : zéloó: to be jealous

Original Word: ζηλόω

HELPS Word-studies

"to be deeply committed to something, to set one's heart on, to be completely intent upon' .

James 4:2 “You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain...”

*Same word for **desire** spiritual gifts in 1 Cor. 14:1 is the word covet (be jealous for), in James 4:2.*

#2 . They are a vital and necessary component to God's plan... they are not optional.

The gifts and power are essential to RE-PRESENT a powerful and loving God.

John 10:37-38 (NKJV)

If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.”

**#3. They are for YOU!
YOU are qualified!**

“But wait! Don’t I need to get more holy first, stop sinning, get the evil out of me and my life before God will use me with His gifts?”

John 16:8-11

“The Spirit will come and show the people of this world the truth about sin and God’s justice [righteousness] and the judgment. The Spirit will show them that they are wrong about sin, because they didn’t have faith in me. They are wrong about God’s justice, because I am going to the Father...”

Let's get biblical!

Jesus' disciples in Luke 9.

- proud, murderous people!

All of 1 Corinthians.

**- jealous, fleshy, sexually
immoral, drunkards who made
a mockery of the poor and the
Lord's supper.**

Aren't these only for people **in ministry**,
or for when I get into **“ministry?”**

Mark 16:17-18

“these signs shall follow those that believe.” (No matter what your station or function in life is).

We need you, functioning in HIS GIFTS,
right where you are!

What Are They?

Different from Motivational Gifts of the Father (Romans 12:6-8).

Different from Ascension Gifts of Jesus. (Ephesians 4:11) .

These are gifts of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:8-11).

1 Corinthians 12:8-11

“...the word of wisdom... the word of knowledge... faith... gifts of healings...the working of miracles... prophecy...discerning of spirits...different kinds of tongues...,the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills

1 Corinthians 12:4

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.”

Gifts = charisma: a gift of grace, a free gift

Original Word: χάρισμα, ατος, τό

Definition: a gift of grace, a free gift

Free grace gift : same word is used to refer to gift of eternal life.

Romans 6:23

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

How do they work?

Formula or Faith?

Galatians 3:5 (NKJV)

*“Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does he do it by the works of the law, or **by the hearing of faith?**”*

John G. Lake

““Beloved, it takes faith to exercise your gift of God. There are just lots of people around everywhere who have gifts of God, and they are lying dormant in their lives, and there is no value for the kingdom of God through them....”

because of the fact they have no faith in God to put the gift in exercise and get the benefit of it... ***We cannot exercise anything beyond what we believe to be possible.***”

Galatians 5:6

“...The only thing that counts is faith expressed through love.”

What Are They For?

1 Corinthians 12:7

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the profit of all.”

Profit = sumphero

Original Word: συμφέρω

Definition: to bring together, to be profitable

There are two components to what it really means to **PROFIT all!**

1. The gift is administered and, for example, a healing occurs - a result.

2. Connection occurs between God and people involved, and between the people themselves.

Brené Brown

“I define connection as the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued; when they can give and receive without judgment; and when they derive sustenance and strength from the relationship.”

RESULT
+
CONNECTION
=
PROFIT

1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:2

“Earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet, I show you a more excellent way. Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal...”

...And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

1 Corinthians 14:1 AMP.

Pursue [this] love [with eagerness, make it your goal], yet earnestly desire and cultivate the spiritual gifts...”

Pursue = Original Word: **διώκω** - diókō

Definition: to put to flight, pursue, by implication to persecute

HELPS Word-studies

1377 – properly, aggressively chase, like a hunter pursuing a catch (prize).

Shawn Bolz

“There is no power from God that is separated from love.”

Hunt down, chase after love, and in doing so, covet spiritual gifts as a way to manifest and demonstrate God’s love and desire for others.

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