THE GIFTS OF THE GODHEAD

I. GIFTS OF THE FATHER - Romans 12:3-8 [Motivation Gifts, Basic Life Purpose and Motivation, Inherent Tendencies]

1. PROPHECY
   a. To speak with forthrightness and insight, especially when enabled by the Spirit of God (Joel 2:28)
   b. To demonstrate moral boldness and uncompromising commitment to worthy values.
   c. To influence others in one’s arena of influence with a positive spirit of social or spiritual righteousness.
   d. The gift of prophecy is the distinctive ability to boldly declare the truth of God, regardless of the consequences, calling people to righteous living.

   NOTE: because all three categories of gifts – the Father’s, the son’s and the Holy Spirit’s involve some expression of “prophecy”, it is helpful to differentiate.

   In the FATHER’S [Rom. 12] the focus is GENERAL, characterized by that level of the prophetic gift that would BELONG TO EVERY BELIEVER.

   In the SON’S [Eph. 4] the focus is OFFICE, the office or position of prophet. Those holding this office must meet both the Old Testament requirements of a prophet’s accuracy in his message, and the New Testament standards of life and character required of spiritual leadership.

   In the HOLY SPIRIT’S [1 Cor. 12:8-10] the focus is supernatural prompting by the Holy Spirit.

2. MINISTRY [SERVING]
   a. To minister and render loving, general service to meet the needs of others.
   b. Illustrated in the work and office of the deacon [Matt. 20:26].
   c. The gift of service is the distinctive ability to identify and meet the practical needs of others.

3. TEACHING
   a. The supernatural ability to explain and apply truths received from God for the church.
   b. Presupposes study and the Spirit’s illumination providing the ability to make divine truth clear to the people of God.
   c. Considered distinct from the work of the prophet who speaks as the direct mouthpiece of God.

4. EXHORTATION
   a. Literally means to call aside for the purpose of making an appeal.
   b. In a broader sense it means to entreat (to ask earnestly for), to implore, comfort, or instruct, to give urgent advice or recommendations. [Acts 4:36; Heb. 10:25].
   c. The gift of exhortation is the distinctive ability to appropriately communicate words of encouragement, challenge, or rebuke in the body of Christ.

5. GIVING
   a. The essential meaning is to give out of a spirit of generosity.
b. In a more technical sense it refers to those with resources aiding those without such resources (2 Cor. 8:2; 9:11-13).
c. This gift is to be exercised without outward show or pride and with liberality. (2 Cor. 1:12; 8:2; 9:11,13).
d. The gift of giving is the distinctive ability to cheerfully and generously contribute personal resources to God’s work.

6. LEADERSHIP
   a. Refers to one “standing in front.”
   b. Involves the exercise of the Holy Spirit in modeling, superintending, and developing the body of Christ.
   c. Leadership is to be exercised with diligence.
   d. The gift of leadership is the distinctive ability to influence others according to a “big picture” purpose, mission, or plan.

7. MERCY
   a. To feel sympathy with the misery of another.
   b. To relate to others in empathy, respect, and honesty.
   c. To be effective, this gift is to be exercised with kindness and cheerfulness – not as a matter of duty.
   d. The gift of mercy is the distinctive ability to feel sincere empathy and compassion in a way that results in practical relief for people’s hurts, pain and suffering.

II. GIFTS OF THE SON – Ephesians 4:11 (Also 1 Cor. 12:28)  

   Office Gifts. To Equip the saints for the work of ministry and for the Edifying (instructing, benefiting, lifting up, enlightening) the body of Christ (the Church).

1. APOSTLES
   a. In apostolic days referred to a select group chosen to carry out directly the ministry of Christ; included the assigned task given to a few to complete the sacred canon of the Holy Scriptures.
   b. Today, implies the exercise of a distinct representative role of broader leadership given by Christ
   c. Today, functions as a messenger or spokesman of God.
   d. Today, refers to those who have the spirit of apostleship in remarkably extending the work of the church, opening fields to the gospel, and overseeing larger sections of the body of Jesus Christ.
   e. Today, an apostle rises up others and releases them into ministry.
   f. The gift of apostleship is the distinctive ability to provide spiritual leadership over a number of pastors and churches that results in tangible fruit in ministry.

2. PROPHET
   a. A spiritually mature spokesman/proclaimer with a special, divinely focused message to the church or the world.
   b. A person uniquely gifted at times with insight into future events.

3. EVANGELIST
   a. Refers primarily to a special gift of preaching or witnessing in a way that brings unbelievers into the experience of salvation.
b. Functionally, the gift of evangelist operates for the establishment of new works, while pastors and teachers follow up to organize and sustain what the evangelist has established.

c. Essentially, the gift of evangelist operates to establish and to gather them spiritually and literally into the body of Christ.

4. **PASTOR/TEACHER**
   a. The word pastor comes from the root meaning “to protect,” from which we get the word “shepherd.”
   b. Implies the function of a shepherd/leader to mature, teach, and care for the spiritual needs of the body.
   c. The gift of teaching is the distinctive ability to employ a logical, systematic approach to biblical study in preparation for clearly communicating practical truth to the body of Christ.
   d. The gift of pastor/shepherd is the distinctive ability to assume responsibility for the spiritual growth and Christian community of a group of believers.

5. **MISSIONARY** *(some see the “apostle” or “evangelist” in this light)*
   a. Implies the unfolding of a plan for making the gospel known to all the world (Rom. 1:16)
   b. Illustrates an attitude of humility necessary for receiving a call to remote areas and unknown situations (Is. 6:1-13).
   c. Connotes an inner compulsion to lead the whole world to an understanding of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:14-20).
   d. The gift of missionary is the distinctive ability to minister effectively in cultures beyond your own.

III. **GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** – 1 Corinthians 12:8-10,28  
*Manifestation gifts* given through the Holy Spirit by revelation. One must have **LOVE IN THEIR HEART** for these gifts to **TRULY BE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**. To “Walk In The Spirit” one must be willing to allow these gifts to “manifest in love.”

1. **WORD OF WISDOM** *[1 Cor. 2:6,7]*
   a. Supernatural perspective to ascertain the divine means for accomplishing God’s will in given situations.
   b. Divinely given power to appropriate spiritual intuition in problem solving.
   c. Sense of divine direction.
   d. Being led by the Holy Spirit to act appropriately in a given set of circumstances.
   e. Knowledge rightly applied: wisdom works interactively with knowledge and discernment.
   f. The gift of wisdom is the distinctive ability to discern the mind of Christ and apply scriptural truth to a specific situation in order to make the right choices and help others move in the right direction.

2. **WORD OF KNOWLEDGE** *[Rom 15:14]*
   a. Supernatural revelation of God’s divine will and plan.
   b. Supernatural insight or understanding of circumstances or a body of facts by revelation: that is, without assistance of any human resource but solely by divine aid.
c. Implies a deeper and more advanced understanding of the communicated acts of God.
d. Involves moral wisdom for right living and relationships.
e. Requires objective understanding concerning divine things in human duties.
f. May also refer to knowledge of God or of the things that belong to God, as related in the gospel.
g. The gift of knowledge is the distinctive ability to seek out, gather, organize, and clarify facts and ideas on a number of diverse subjects.

3. FAITH [Matt. 17:19,20; 1 Cor. 13:2; 2 Cor.4:13]
a. Supernatural ability to believe God without doubt.
b. Supernatural ability to combat unbelief.
c. Supernatural ability to meet adverse circumstances with trust in God’s messages and words.
d. Inner conviction impelled by an urgent and higher calling.
e. The gift of faith is the distinctive ability to believe God with confidence for things unseen, spiritual growth and the will of God.

4. GIFTS OF HEALING
a. Refers to supernatural healing without human aid.
b. May include divinely assisted application of human instrumentation and medical means of treatment.
c. Does not discount the use of God’s creative gifts.
d. The gift of healing is the distinctive ability to be used as a human intermediary through whom God’s supernatural power is applied to a person’s physical or emotional need.

5. WORKING OF MIRACLES [Mark 16:17]
a. Supernatural power to intervene and counteract earthly and evil forces.
b. Literally means a display of power giving ability to go beyond the natural.
c. Operates closely with the gifts of faith and healings to bring authority over sin, Satan, sickness and the binding forces of this age.
d. The gift of miracles is the distinctive ability to perform supernatural acts as an instrument or agent of God that alter the expected course of nature.

6. PROPHECY [Rom. 12:6]
a. Divinely inspired and anointed utterance.
b. Supernatural proclamation in a known language.
c. Manifestation of the Spirit of God – not of intellect (1 Cor. 12:7).
d. May be possessed and operated by all who have the infilling of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 14:31).
e. Intellect, faith, and will are operative in this gift, but its exercise is not intellectually based. It is calling forth words from the Spirit of God.

7. DISCERNING OF SPIRITS [1 John 4:1]
a. Supernatural power to detect the realm of the spirits and their activities.
b. Implies the power of spiritual insight – supernatural revelation of plans and purposes of the enemy and his forces.

8. DIFFERENT KINDS OF TONGUES [Acts 2:4-10]
a. Supernatural utterance in languages not known to the speaker: these languages may be existent in the world, revived from some past culture, or “unknown” in the sense that they are a means of communication inspired by the Holy Spirit. (Is. 28:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 2:4; 10:44-48; 19:1-7; 1 Cor. 12:10, 28-3; 13:1=3; 14:2, 4-22, 26-32).

b. Serve as an evidence and sign of the indwelling and working of the Holy Spirit.

   a. Supernatural power to reveal the meaning of tongues.
   b. Functions not as an operation of the mind of man but as the mind of the Spirit.
   c. Does not serve as a translation (interpreter never understands the tongue he is interpreting), but rather is a declaration of meaning as revealed by the Spirit.
   d. Is exercising as a miraculous and supernatural phenomenon as are the gift of speaking in tongues and the gift of prophecy.

IV. OTHER GIFTS. The above seem to be the basic foundational gifts given by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Are these all the gifts? It would seem they are not. Gifts are given for the edification of the body and equipping the saints. Some additional gifts given by the Spirit as He determines (1 Cor. 12:11) are as follows:

HELPS
The gift of helps is the distinctive ability to work with and support other Christian’s ministry efforts.

HOSPITALITY

ADMINISTRATION
The gift of administration is the distinctive ability to coordinate and organize people and projects. (Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Cor. 12:28).

DISCERNMENT
The gift of discernment is the distinctive ability to perceive whether a person’s actions originate from Godly, satanic, or merely human sources. (Matt. 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11; 16:16-18; 1 Cor. 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6).

MUSIC
The gift of music is the distinctive ability to make a significant contribution to a worship experience through singing or playing a musical instrument. (Deut. 31:22; 1 Sam. 16:16; 1 Chron. 5:12-13; Ps 150)

CRAFTSMANSHIP
The gift of craftsmanship is the distinctive ability to use your hands and mind to benefit other believers through artistic, creative or a wide variety of construction arenas. (Ex. 30:22-25; 31:3-11; 2 Chro.34:9-13; Acts 18:2-3).
INTERCESSION
The gift of intercession is the distinctive ability to pray for significant lengths of time, on a regular basis, and often observe specific answers to those prayers. (Col. 1:9-12; 4:12-13; James 5:14-16).

V. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/ANSWERS
1. There are a number of inventories available to help people determine their gift. Why not use them?

2. How can I determine my gift/gifts? (see page 15-16 of Pastor Jim’s Spiritual Gifts handout).

3. Reflect on your own Christian walk.

4. How was the Holy Spirit manifested through you in your outreach?

5. What part do you serve in the church?

6. How are you able to help other Christians or the church?

7. What have others seen in you? What have you seen in others?

( NOTE # 1 –much of the information taken from Spirit Filled Life Bible pages 2018- 2026 and sermon notes from Pastors Scott & Jim)