

## Definitions of Spiritual Gifts

Adapted from the book, *Spiritual Gifts: Their Purpose & Power*

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**Apostleship:** The unique, God-given ability to exercise strategic leadership and spiritual authority over large segments of the body of Christ for the purpose of greatly increasing the church's impact in its work for the kingdom of God. Ephesians 4:11, 2 Corinthians 12:12

**Prophet:** The unique, God-given ability to receive special revelations from God and to serve as a messenger, delivering those communications to those whom God directs. Ephesians 4:11, Acts 21:9-12

**Evangelism:** The unique, God-given ability to cause others to be aware of their need for Christ and to then present the gospel in such a way that others believe it and accept it. Ephesians 4:11, 2 Timothy 4:5

**Pastoring:** The unique, God-given ability to nurture, protect, and to help bring to maturity, a group of Christians. Ephesians 4:11, 1 Timothy 3:1

**Teaching:** The unique, God-given ability to discover God's truths and to communicate them in such a way that others can understand them and grow spiritually. Ephesians 4:11, Acts 18:24-26

**Faith:** The unique, God-given ability to discern God's will for a particular matter and to fervently pray and work toward accomplishing that end while inspiring others to do the same. 1 Corinthians 12:9, Numbers 13:30

**Exhortation:** The unique, God-given ability to encourage, strengthen, and admonish others for the purpose of helping them to reach their God-given potential. Romans 12:8, Acts 9:26-27

**Serving:** The unique, God-given ability to be aware of the physical and practical needs of others and to meet those needs in a way that blesses them. Romans 12:7, John 12:3

**Helps:** The unique, God-given ability to partner and come alongside others for the purpose of greatly increasing the other person's ministry effectiveness. 1 Corinthians 12:28, Acts 13:4-5

**Craftsmanship:** The unique, God-given ability to work skillfully and creatively to design, build, or create things that are useful and inspirational in the work of the kingdom. Exodus 31:3-5, Exodus 35:30-35

**Hospitality:** The unique, God-given ability to open one's home to others and to create such an environment of warmth and acceptance that genuine ministry occurs. 1 Peter 4:9-10, Acts 16:14-15

**Discernment:** The unique, God-given ability to detect whether the actions and intentions of others are from a heavenly, a human, or a demonic influence. 1 Corinthians 12:10, Acts 16:16-18

**Leadership:** The unique, God-given ability to perceive God's ideals for a matter and to then organize, inspire, and lead others in the completion of that endeavor. Romans 12:8, Acts 15:13-20

**Administration:** The unique, God-given ability to administrate and organize people and resources in order to achieve maximum efficiency in the work of the kingdom. 1 Corinthians 12:28, Acts 6:1-6

**Interpretation of Tongues:** The unique, God-given ability to interpret and translate a message in tongues into an understandable language that others can receive and benefit from. 1 Corinthians 12:10, 1 Corinthians 14:26

**Interpretation of Dreams:** The unique, God-given ability to decode the symbolism and explain the meaning of dreams and/or visions that others receive from God. Daniel 1:17, Genesis 41:12

**Missionary:** The unique, God-given ability to effectively minister in a foreign culture for the purposes of establishing and/or strengthening the church within that cultural group. Acts 13:1-5, Acts 22:21

**Intercession:** The unique, God-given ability to perceive the heart of God for nations, individuals, or specific situations and to pray fervently and strategically until God's will comes to pass. Luke 2:37, Acts 12:5

**Giving:** The unique, God-given ability to give unselfishly of one's resources (time, money, affections, etc.) to ensure that the work of the church and the needs of others are taken care of. Romans 12:8, Matthew 27:57-60

**Simplicity:** The unique, God-given ability to voluntarily divulge oneself of most material comforts so as to simplify one's lifestyle for more effective ministry. 1 Corinthians 13:3, Acts 2:44-45

**Mercy:** The unique, God-given ability to comfort and restore others who are experiencing a physical, spiritual, or emotional hardship. Romans 12:8, Luke 10:33-35

**Knowledge:** The unique, God-given ability to perceive the truths of God and the mysteries of the faith and to share these insights for the edification of the church. 1 Corinthians 12:8, Acts 18:24-26

**Wisdom:** The unique, God-given ability to discover principles and precepts in the Word of God and to accurately apply them to everyday living so that oneself and others live skillfully and are blessed by God. 1 Corinthians 12:8, Acts 15:13-20

**Worship:** The unique, God-given ability to usher in the presence of God during a time of worship for the purpose of drawing others into an intimate encounter with God. 1 Corinthians 14:15, 1 Samuel 16:23

**Miracles:** The unique, God-given ability to perform supernatural acts which supersede natural law for the purpose of causing others to recognize the power and glory of God. 1 Corinthians 12:10, Acts 19:11-12

**Prophecy:** The unique, God-given ability to receive an inspired message from God that is then shared with others to bring encouragement, edification, or correction. 1 Corinthians 12:10, Luke 2:25-35

**Deliverance:** The unique, God-given ability to perceive and confront demonic forces and to bring freedom to those trapped in demonic bondage. Mark 16:17, Luke 10:17

**Tongues:** The unique, God-given ability to communicate with God in a special, heavenly language for the purpose of praise, intercession, and spiritual edification. 1 Corinthians 12:10, Acts 19:6

**Healing:** The unique, God-given ability to cure and restore those who suffer from physical and/or emotional ailments. 1 Corinthians 12:9, Acts 3:1-8

**Martyrdom:** The unique, God-given ability to endure suffering and persecution for the cause of Christ and yet maintain a spirit of joy and thankfulness for the purposes of witnessing to the oppressors and inspiring the church at large. John 21:18-19, Acts 21:13