

## **SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

All Christians have been given at least one spiritual gift by the Holy Spirit. Many Christians have several spiritual gifts, with typically one dominant gift; this group of gifts is called a gift cluster. The purpose of spiritual gifts is to unify Christians in their faith, build each other up, and to produce growth within the church, both numerical and spiritual. Spiritual gifts are to be used out of love for God and for others, and in service for God and to others.

**Administration:** the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. (I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23)

**Discernment:** the gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations. (John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16)

**Exhortation:** the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict or facing a spiritual void. (John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8)

**Faith:** the gift that gives a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead. (Genesis 12:1-4a, Mark 5:25-34, I Thessalonians 1:8-10)

**Giving:** the gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). (II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4)

**Knowledge:** the gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith. (I Corinthians 12:8; I Cor. 14:6, Romans 12:2)

**Leadership:** the gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task. (Romans 12:8, John 21:15-17, II Timothy 4:1-5)

**Mercy:** the gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then act to meet that need. (Luke 7:12-15, Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:34-36)

**Service/ Helps:** the gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. (Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23)

**Teaching:** the gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others. (I Corinthians 12:28, Matthew 5:1-12, Acts 18:24-48)

**Wisdom:** the gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers. (I Corinthians 2:6-13, James 3:13-18, II Chronicles 1:7-11)