

## Gifts of the Heart

*Faith, Giving, Helps, Hospitality, Mercy*

- **Faith** - the ability to recognize what God wants accomplished, as well as to sustain a stalwart belief that God will see it done despite what others perceive as barriers.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good...to another faith by the same spirit.* 1 Corinthians 12:7, 9

Biblical example - the centurion who asked for help knowing Jesus would provide it. Matthew 8:5-10

- **Giving** - the ability to give of material wealth freely and with joy to further the work of God.

Bible reference: *We have different gifts, according to the grace given us ... if it is contributing to the needs of others, let [them] give generously.* Romans 12:6, 8

Biblical example - the early church in Jerusalem. Acts 4:32-35

- **Helps** - the ability to work alongside others, attaching spiritual value to the accomplishment of practical, often behind-the-scenes tasks.

Bible reference: *And in the church God has appointed ... those able to help others.* 1 Corinthians 12:28

Biblical example - distribution of food in the early church. Acts 6:1-7

- **Hospitality** - the ability to provide a warm welcome for people that demonstrates God's love by providing food, shelter, or fellowship.

Bible reference: *Be hospitable to one another without complaining. Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.* 1 Peter 4:9-10

Biblical example - Lydia opens her home. Acts 16:13-15

- **Mercy** - the ability to perceive the suffering of others and comfort and minister effectively with empathy.

Bible reference: *We have different gifts, according to the grace given us ... if it is showing mercy, let [us] do it cheerfully.* Romans 12:6, 8b

Biblical example - Jesus and the woman of Samaria. John 4:1-30

## Gifts of Action

*Administration, Apostleship, Encouragement/Counseling, Leadership, Pastoring/Shepherding*

- **Administration** - the ability to organize information, events, or materials to work efficiently for the body of Christ.

Bible reference: *And in the church God has appointed ... those with gifts of administration.* 1 Corinthians 12:28

Biblical example - Joseph during the famine in Egypt. Genesis 41:33-57

- **Apostleship** - the ability to minister transculturally, starting new churches or ministries that touch multiple churches.

Bible reference: *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it ... It was he who gave some to be apostles.* Ephesians 4: 7, 11

Biblical example - Paul taking the Gospel to Athens. Acts 17:16-34

- **Encouragement/Counseling** - the ability to effectively listen to people, comforting and assisting them in moving toward psychological and relational wholeness.

Bible reference: *God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well ... If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging.* Romans 12:6, 8

Biblical example - Barnabas encouraging those at Antioch. Acts 11:22-24

- **Leadership** - The ability to motivate, coordinate, and direct the efforts of others in doing God's work.

Bible reference: *God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well ... If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously.* Romans 12:6, 8

Biblical example - Moses' successor, Joshua. Joshua 1:1-9

- **Pastoring/Shepherding** - the ability to guide and care for others as they experience spiritual growth.

Bible reference: *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it ... It was he who gave some to be ... pastors.* Ephesians 4:7,11

Biblical example - Jesus and His disciples. The Gospels

## Gifts of Proclamation

Discernment, Evangelism, Knowledge, Prophecy, Teaching, Wisdom

- **Discernment** - the ability to recognize what is of God and what is not of God.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good ... to another distinguishing between spirits.* 1 Corinthians 12:7,10

Biblical example - Peter's response to Simon the sorcerer. Acts 8:18-24

- **Evangelism** - the ability to spread the good news of Jesus Christ in ways that inspire others to learn more about our faith.

Bible reference: *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned It ... It was he who gave some to be ... evangelists.* Ephesians 4:7,11

Biblical example - Philip's obedience in ministering to the Ethiopian eunuch. Acts 8:26-38

- **Knowledge** - the ability to understand, organize, and effectively use information, from natural sources or the Holy Spirit, for the advancement of God's purposes.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given ... the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit.* 1 Corinthians 12:7-8

Biblical example - Jesus and the temple tax. Matthew 17:24-27

- **Prophecy** - the ability to proclaim God's truths in a way relevant to current situations and to envision how God would will things to change.

Bible reference: *But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it ... It was he who gave some to be ... prophets.* Ephesians 4:7,11

Biblical example - John's conveying his vision and words of Jesus. Revelation 2

- **Teaching** - the ability to understand and communicate God's truths to others effectively—in ways that lead to applications in their lives.

Bible reference: *We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us ... the teacher, in teaching ...* Romans 12:6-7

Biblical example - Peter and John's testimony and teaching. Acts 3:11-4:4

- **Wisdom** - the ability to understand and apply biblical and spiritual knowledge to complex, paradoxical, or other difficult situations.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom.* 1 Corinthians 12:7-8

Biblical example - Peter, Paul, and James at the Council of Jerusalem. Acts 15:5-19

## Gifts of Inspiration

Healing, Miracles, Speaking in Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues

- **Healing** - the ability to call on God for the curing of illness and the restoration of health in a supernatural way.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good ... to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit.* 1 Corinthians 12:7, 9

Biblical example - Jesus healing a man born blind. John 9:1-7

- **Miracles** - the ability to call on God to do supernatural acts that glorify God.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit ... miraculous powers.* 1 Corinthians 12:7-8, 10

Biblical example - Paul's miracles in Ephesus. Acts 19:11-12

- **Speaking in Tongues and Interpretation of Tongues** - the ability to speak in a language, known or unknown to others, supernaturally, or to interpret such languages.

Bible reference: *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good ... to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another, the interpretation of tongues.* 1 Corinthians 12:7, 10.

Biblical example - Peter at Cornelius' house. Acts 10:44-46