Imagine getting in a car and trying to travel somewhere without gas... It might be technically possible, but doing so using solely your own power is wasteful and reckless. In the same way, God freely gives all Christians specific spiritual gifts--to ignore them would be wasteful and reckless.

Spiritual gifts are simply specific areas where the Holy Spirit operates in and through us in unique ways to build the Kingdom and help us in our walk with Him while on this earth.

Ephesians 4 lays out what some call the "Equipping Gifts." These gifts are given to help people operate as apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers, and often line up with leadership abilities and callings in the local church.

In Romans 12, we're presented with the "Motivational Gifts" that the Holy Spirit gives us to invest in the people around us and motivate them towards godliness and Kingdom building. These gifts are prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, leading, and showing mercy.

The "Manifest Gifts" in 1 Corinthians 12 are the ones that connect us more personally with God, as well as encourage the rest of the church to do the same. These gifts are supernatural wisdom, knowledge, faith, and healing by that one Spirit, as well as miraculous powers, prophecy, spiritual discernment, speaking in tongues, and the interpretation of tongues.

Some of these gifts might already be obvious and strong in your life, while some of them might take years to develop. The most important thing is to identify what the Holy Spirit has gifted you in, build those things in your life, and eagerly desire for God to move in bigger and more ways as you grow.



## SPIRITUAL GIFTS CONT.

Have you taken a spiritual gifts assessment to discover what your gifts are? Do you agree with the assessment? What would people who know you say about the results?

Which, if any of the gifts in Ephesians do you think the Holy Spirit has given you? Are you being faithful with those gifts?

- Which, if any of the gifts in Romans do you think the Holy Spirit has given you? Are you being faithful with those gifts?
- Which, if any of the gifts in 1
  Corinthians do you think the
  Holy Spirit has given you? Are
  you being faithful with those
  gifts?
- Are you being faithful to consistenly use your giftings?
  Are you intentional to keep pressing into the Holy Spirit in those gifts? Are you currently growing in your giftings?
- Are you earnestly seeking new gifts to be able to be used by the Holy Spirit in new ways? Are you holding back out of fear, intimidation, or insecurity? What do you need to give to God before having new giftings?
- Are you using your giftings responsibly? Have you ever used a gifting for selfish gain? Is there anything you need to repent for?
- In what ways can you better encourage and equip the church using your giftings? Is there any area where you are not operating in your giftings in the church where you need to be?

RESOURCE	AUTHOR / CREATOR	TYPE
gifts.churchgrowth.org	Spiritual Gifts Assessment	Website
Jesus Continued	J.D. Greear	Book
Understanding Spiritual Gifts	Sam Storms	Book
Ministering Through Spiritual Gifts	Charles F. Stanley	Book
livingfaithindy.com/spiritualgifts	Yale Wall	Sermon Series
The Heavenly Man	Paul Hattaway	Book
Yet For Us   Why We Should Prophesy	Joe Ewen	YouTube Video
desiringgod.org	John Piper	Website
The Insanity of God	Nik Ripken	Book / Movie
Spiritual Warfare	Jerry Rankin	Book