

The Bible teaches us that there are different kinds of spiritual gifts given by God for the building up of the Church. These gifts are not chosen by us they are given by the Holy Spirit according to His will.

1. The Biblical Foundation for Spiritual Gifts

In **1 Corinthians 12:4-12 (ESV)**, the Apostle Paul writes:

*“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;
and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who
empowers them all in everyone.*

*To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common
good.*

*For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom,
and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same
Spirit,*

to another faith by the same Spirit,

to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

to another the working of miracles,

to another prophecy,

to another the ability to distinguish between spirits,

to another various kinds of tongues,

to another the interpretation of tongues.

*All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who
apportions to each one individually as He wills.”*

Just like the human body has many parts that work together, so also the body of Christ is made up of many members, each with different gifts.

2. Types of Gifts: Natural and Spiritual

Gifts can generally be grouped into two categories:

A. Natural (Physical) Gifts

These are abilities people may be born with or develop over time. They include:

- Strength, intelligence, creativity
- Talent in music, sports, art, leadership, or teaching
- Even charisma, quick learning, or public speaking

Though natural, these gifts can still bring glory to God when used rightly. However, they are not the same as *spiritual gifts*, which are given through the Holy Spirit after spiritual rebirth.

B. Spiritual (Supernatural) Gifts

These are spiritual empowerments given to believers through the Holy Spirit. As 1 Corinthians 12 teaches, these may include:

- Prophecy

- Healing
- Discernment
- Speaking in tongues
- Interpretation of tongues
- Teaching
- Pastoring
- Wisdom
- Evangelism
- And many others...

These gifts are not for personal gain but for serving the body of Christ.

3. Can Someone Be Born with a Spiritual Gift?

Yes. Just as someone may be born with a natural talent, people can be born with spiritual gifts. However, these gifts remain dormant or even misused if the person is not in Christ.

For example:

- Someone born with a prophetic gift might end up practicing witchcraft, divination, or false prophecy if they grow up in an unchristian environment.

- A person with leadership gifts may become a gang leader or criminal mastermind if not led by the Holy Spirit.
- A person with the gift of discernment may become a spiritist or fortune-teller if not submitted to God.

But when such a person repents and comes to Christ, gets baptized, and is filled with the Holy Spirit, the gift is sanctified and awakened for God's glory.

As Jesus said:

"You must be born again." John 3:7 (ESV)

Without spiritual rebirth, even God-given potential can be twisted or suppressed by the enemy.

4. Why Doesn't God Just Tell Me My Gift?

Many people ask, *"How can I know my spiritual gift?"* They pray, fast, and wait for an answer but feel confused or hear nothing.

Let's be clear: **you don't discover your spiritual gift by overanalyzing yourself or waiting for a voice from heaven.** Most of the time, God reveals your gift through **service and the confirmation of others.**

Remember:

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6 (ESV)

If you desire a certain gift simply because it's popular or admired such as prophecy or singing be careful. Gifts are not self assigned. They are distributed by the Holy Spirit **"as He wills."** (1 Cor. 12:11)

5. How Can I Discover My Spiritual Gift?

Here is a simple and biblical process:

Step 1: Be Born Again

Fully surrender your life to Jesus Christ. Believe in His death and

resurrection. Be baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38), and seek the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Without this step, the Holy Spirit will not dwell in you, and your spiritual gift will remain buried or misused.

Step 2: Join the Fellowship of Believers

Start actively serving in a local church or group of believers. Don't wait for a title just serve. Pay attention to:

- What the Holy Spirit nudges you to do
- What brings you spiritual joy and peace
- What burdens you to act
- What you naturally do without being asked

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

Step 3: Listen to the Body of Christ

Others will start noticing your gift before you do. You might hear people say things like:

- “You pray and people are healed.” Gift of Healing
- “Your teaching is so clear.” Gift of Teaching
- “You comfort me every time we talk.” Gift of Encouragement
- “You lead worship and God’s presence falls.” Gift of Worship/Ministry
- “You have insight into people’s lives.” Word of Knowledge or Prophecy

The Church acts like a mirror, helping you see what God has placed in you.

6. Warning: Don’t Seek Gifts for Fame or Money

Many today desire spiritual gifts for the wrong reasons especially prophecy and music because they attract attention, influence, and income.

But Scripture warns us:

“He gave... apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV)

Spiritual gifts are for building up the Church not building your brand. If your desire is to use a gift for wealth or popularity, that's not the Spirit of God it's a counterfeit.

Jesus also said:

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Matthew 23:12 (ESV)

You may not find your gift overnight. It could take months or even years. But as long as you walk faithfully with Christ, serve humbly, and remain connected to the Body, your gift will emerge.

Just remember:

- **Gifts are from God, not ourselves.**
- **They are for the Church, not personal gain.**
- **They build up others, not our ego.**

Ask the Lord to purify your heart before He reveals your gift. Once He does, use it **faithfully and for His glory alone.**

Prayer

Father, thank You for the unique gift You have placed in me. I surrender myself to You fully. Reveal my gift in Your perfect time, and help me to use it for the building up of Your Church and the glory of Your name. In Jesus' name, amen.

God bless you as you seek to walk faithfully in the calling He has placed on your life.

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