

# Using Spiritual Gifts to Bear Fruit

Last week – Good and Faithful Servant from parables of Jesus - Luke 19:11–27 (minas) & Matthew 25:14-30 (talents).

Let's explore this in detail.

**We all get the same – just like the measure of faith (Rom 12:3);**

**The Spirit within yields fruit:** When you get saved the Holy Spirit comes to live within you (1 John 3:24, 4:13). This same Spirit will enable you to produce the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). These 9 fruits are the result of being full of the spirit and are **attributes** that should characterize every Christian. You don't need gifting or work to yield fruit. Fruit is produced as it develops (Mark 4:28 first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear). John 15:5,8 Jesus is the vine, we are the branches that bear fruit. Matt 7:16-20 you are known by your fruit. The more you yield to the Holy Spirit the more fruit you will have.

**To each his own;**

**At salvation you are given a spiritual gift.** 1 Cor 12:7 says the manifestation (an indication of the existence, reality, or presence of something) of the Spirit is given to **each one** for the benefit of all. Notice the gift is manifested which is an indication of the reality of something. Just as the Spiritual attributes can be seen, operation of the Spiritual gifts can be seen!

We notice in verses 1 Cor 12:29-30 that **everyone has their own gift**. It's not like the fruit of the Spirit where everyone has the grace to produce the **same** characteristics.

**There are three sections of Scripture** that mention or lists gifts given to believers; Eph 4:7-12, Rom 12:3-8 & 1 Cor 12:4-11

**Why should we know about Spiritual Gifts?** Wouldn't it be easier to pretend they don't exist? 1 Cor 12:1 We are instructed not to be ignorant (not to know or understand) of spiritual gifts.

**Scripture says we should covet them!** We are told many times in Scripture to not covet things (it is the last of the 10 Commandments) but there is one thing we are told to covet – spiritual gifts! Covet means to earnestly desire. **1 Cor 14:1 & 12** tells us to desire spiritual gifts and **1 Cor 12:31** tells us to earnestly desire the best gift. What is the best gift? The one you need in the moment. For example, if someone is sick, the gift of prophecy won't help.

**What is a gift?** Something that is bestowed voluntarily and without compensation.

## **PART 2**

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**Why do we need the gifts in operation? Mark 16:20, Heb 2:4, 1 Cor 2:4-5**

**Some gifts are given for the correct operation of the Church. Eph 4:11-12**

**Some gifts are for the ministry of the saints. Rom 12:6-8** Notice the attitude you should have.

**1 Cor 12:4-6** we see there are diversities of gifts, diversities of ministries (administrations) and diversities of activities (operations). Diversities means different. What is the same? It is the same God that works all in all (vs 6).

**The different ministries or administrations** are listed in **1 Cor 12:28**

**The different spiritual gifts** are listed in **1 Cor 12:8-10** Notice there are 9 spiritual gifts just like there are 9 fruits of the spirit. Isn't God a marvelous God of order?

**Remember who gives the gift 1 Cor 12:11** – the Holy Spirit gives as He wills the power (works). So He gives the gift and He gives the power to operate the gift.

**The motivation** for using the gifts should always be love (1 Cor 13:1-3). Much harm has come when people use their gifts for selfish gain.

**How to get the gifts** (ask James James 4:2, laying on of hands **1 Tim 4:14, 2 Tim 1:6**)