

## **CONCERNING SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Jeff Schreve

*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware.  
1 Corinthians 12:1*

### **What does God want us to know about spiritual gifts?**

#### **1. Spiritual gifts can be confused.**

- A. The devil wants to confuse, syncretize and lead astray.

*You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray  
to the dumb idols, however you were led. 12:2*

- B. The devil wants to counterfeit the work of God.

*Therefore I make known to you, that no one speaking by the Spirit  
of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is  
Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. 12:3*

#### **2. Spiritual gifts need to be understood.**

- A. They are supernatural gifts and abilities.

- B. They are divinely distributed.

*It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts.  
He alone decides which gift each person should have.  
12:11 NLT*

- C. They are given to promote unity, not disunity.

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And  
there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. And  
there are varieties of effects, but the same God who  
works all things in all persons. 12:4-6*

D. They are tools to benefit the congregation, not toys to benefit the individual.

*But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit  
for the common good. 12:7*

### 3. Spiritual gifts give evidence that God is at work.

A. There are sign gifts to establish and authenticate the church.

*The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all  
perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.*

*2 Corinthians 12:12*

Healing

Effecting of Miracles

Tongues

Interpretation of Tongues

*So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe, but to  
unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign not to unbelievers but to  
believers. 1 Corinthians 14:22*

B. There are practical gifts to strengthen the church.

*And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to  
us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to  
the proportion of his faith; if service, in his serving; or he who  
teaches, in his teaching; or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he  
who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who  
shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Romans 12:6-8*

Word of wisdom

Prophecy

Discerning spirits

Service

Mercy

Leading

Helps

Word of knowledge

Faith

Teaching

Exhortation

Giving

Evangelism

Administration