

RESOURCES

SERVING THE BODY WITH OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS



ILLUMINATE
COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS DESCRIBED IN DETAIL

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*"And God has appointed in the church, first apostles
second prophets, third teachers, then miracles,
then gifts of healings, **helps**, administrations,
various kinds of tongues."*

I Corinthians 12:28

A.
HELPS

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of HELPS is the grace from God that manifests itself as the heart's desire to invest one's talents in the life and ministry of other members of the body, enabling them to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts. Those with the gift of Helps are similar to those with the gift of Serving, except their focus is more on *servicing in relationships*. Therefore, those with the gift of Helps are drawn by a desire to make someone else successful. They can feel fulfilled when assisting people who have more visible roles. People with this gift are typically unselfish and have a willingness to do whatever it takes.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will tend to connect with anyone, go anywhere or organize anything if that would make a difference for someone else. You will also want to understand the hopes and needs of those you desire to help, and in so doing, will find yourself even willing to attend and participate in meetings or other functions on behalf of another person.

With this gift, you can derive great joy in seeing another complete his or her projects and realize their vision or goals and commitments. As you increasingly trust God in the offering of the gift of Helps, you will want God to give you the sensitivity to know when and when not to provide this gift.

***Those with the gift of Helps will do anything to help - even at
his or her own expense.***

B. LEADING

*And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly...he who **leads**, with diligence;..."*

Romans 12:8

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of LEADING is the grace from God that is manifested by a desire to set and communicate goals in accordance with God's purpose. The grace of Leading is expressed by providing a motivating vision, influencing others to commit to the vision, and communicating God's purpose in relation to the vision. This gift of Leading can be offered anywhere and is needed everywhere whether in a family, the church or throughout a larger community. Those with this gift provide the direction for the organization and implementation that the gift of Administrations then provides.

Those with the gift of Leading typically think in terms of long-term goals, envisioning the end results before others. Thus, their gift can be used by God to motivate and mobilize His people to achieve His purpose for the body of Christ in the Kingdom of God.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, people will tend to seek guidance from you regarding what they can contribute to the vision and for specific direction with their ministry. As you open yourself to God's leading with this gift, you will find yourself called upon to provide insight, to influence in an uplifting manner and to clarify and re-clarify God's purpose for both the short and long term. As you increasingly trust God with this gift you may find an increase in the demand on your time and energy. You will likely experience an acute care and concern for the overall direction and progress (or lack of it) for the church and its community.

***The gift of Leading transforms God's purpose
Into action in the church's community.***

*“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as **evangelists**, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;”*
Ephesians 4:11

C.
EVANGELISM

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of EVANGELISM is the grace from God manifested by a desire to share the gospel with unbelievers in such a way that men and women become true disciples of Christ and active members of His body. There is a love in one’s heart for lost people and a deep desire to see them saved. Those with this gift think of people in terms of being lost without Christ, and find great joy in explaining the Gospel to bring them to a point of decision.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you probably think in terms of, “I could share Christ right now!” Because you are on the lookout, you may tend to observe, wherever you may be, the words and actions of people in order to determine if they have accepted Christ as their Savior. In this way, you rarely overlook opportunities to share Christ, whereas others without this gift often miss the opportunities around them.

Even though you have a desire to share Christ, it might be frightening to do so publicly. As you open yourself to God’s leading you in this grace, He will provide opportunities to share His truths in many places and ways - at a coffee table explaining the Gospel on a napkin, or talking about you faith while barbecuing in the back yard with a neighbor.

Whenever and wherever you see or hear of people who don’t know Christ, the gift of Evangelism will look for ways to help them find Him.

D. SERVING

*“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...**”*
Romans 12:6-7

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of SERVING is the grace of God is manifested by a deep desire to identify with and respond to those unmet needs related to God’s work and purpose. Those with the gift of serving have a heart to serve people, thereby bringing others closer to God’s eternal love. Therefore, when a need is perceived, a person with this gift is motivated to use all available resources — physical, mental, emotional and spiritual — to meet that need, immediately.

Those with this gift tend to think and act in terms of the here and now and are concerned about who or what they may have missed in terms of what they could have done.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you may have developed a high level of energy, thinking there is not enough time to serve everyone. You will also find yourself developing alert spiritual antennae to possible needs that may be hidden due to fear or unrecognized due to denial. When in a need exists, you may jump into action as you don’t need to be asked to assume on a servant role. You may also be quite practical in your approach, providing real solutions to real needs. As you open yourself to God’s leading you in this grace, you will find people seeking your help in many different ways – from individual encouragement to crisis intervention. You may also enjoy tasks such as substitute teaching, setting up for meetings, or folding brochures.

***Through the gift of Serving, we love one another
and fulfill the Great Commandment.***

*“And God has appointed in the church, first apostles,
second prophets, third teachers, then miracles,
then gifts of healings, helps, **administrations**,
various kinds of tongues.”*
1 Corinthians 12:28

E. ADMINISTRATIONS

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of ADMINISTRATIONS is the grace from God to understand the goals of the body of Christ and to organize, implement, and coordinate both resources and people in order to accomplish these goals.

People with this gift recognize the gifts of others and encourage them to use their gifts in helping the church accomplish its vision. This encouragement is usually provided by identifying opportunities and establishing methods that enable others to participate. They then plan, organize and manage them, their resource requirements, and schedule others in a way that increases the effectiveness of the ministry. Whereas Leadership is the gift of vision and influencing, Administrations is the gift of management and implementation.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will most likely be comfortable balancing several “plates” at the same time. As you open yourself to God’s leading you in this gift of Administrations, you’ll find yourself looking for more efficient ways of getting the details of ministry accomplished by assessing the tasks and asking yourself and others, “Is there a better way of doing this?” You’ll gain increasing joy in delegating and mobilizing other people to get involved as you realize the extent of participation required to complete the goals and meet the vision

As you learn to trust God more and more with this gift, you will have a passion to integrate the details of a project in relation to the big picture. As you consider a project, with this grace you will likely ensure that all the pieces come together to make a finished product such as a teaching lesson, staff meeting agenda, community gathering plan, follow-up activity, a printed weekly church bulletin, and more!

Church ministry effectiveness is guided and enabled through the gift of Administrations.

F. DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS

*But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good. For to one is given...and to
another the distinguishing of spirits..."*
1 Corinthians 12:10

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of *DISTINGUISHING OF SPIRITS* is the grace from God to discern what is true and what is false in light of Biblical understanding. With the Bible as a basis, people who have this grace judge between what is right and wrong. They can also identify behavior as being from God or some other source. They are constantly examining and evaluating both what people say and what they do in order to ensure that individuals and groups within the body of Christ are protected from false teaching or satanic influence. People with this gift often “look right through” others, so as to weigh their motives and intentions in light of God’s Word.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will listen to others speak and then, upon reflection, respond to what they have to say with, “That’s wrong!” or “That’s right!” You will develop a sense for seeing errors or inconsistencies in most everything. As you develop your grace from God, you will increasingly be aware when teachers or preachers are misinterpreting or misapplying Scripture. As you meet people, you tend to be what others call, “a good judge of character” in the sense that you can see both genuineness and hypocrisy in them.

As you look at projects, you tend to foresee potential problems that might need to be resolved. In relationships, your passion for truth and righteousness you may find it increasingly difficult to let others get by with white lies, half-truths, or potential compromises of integrity or ethics. From your perspective, the “gray areas” of life get in the way of enjoying God’s love.

***The gift of Distinguishing of Spirits is the purifying flame
of God’s Spirit in the Church.***

*“But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another **faith** by the same Spirit...”*
1 Corinthians 12:7-9



GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of FAITH is the grace from God to trust Him for the impossible. People with this gift envision projects for the Lord finished before they're even started. They see people's needs met or problems solved when everyone else is doubting that a solution even exists. Like Abraham in Genesis 22, they see God's provision when there is no rational reason for doing so. They have big dreams and take big risks. They honestly believe that unless God somehow shows up, whatever is attempted will fail; but God will show up! Because they are absolutely convinced that they are in God's will, they have absolutely no doubt that God will provide everything they need at the right time.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you can see yourself taking risks no matter what others might say about the consequences. You tend to see a need and firmly believe that God will meet it through you or others. As you open your heart to God's leading you in this gift of faith, difficult challenges and new opportunities will tend to energize rather than frighten you – as long as you believe God is leading you. You can probably see yourself launching a new ministry or program in the church even when the leadership and most other members are not supportive. You will often find difficult circumstances actually exciting because of your anticipation of God's provision or solution.

The gift of Faith propels the body of believers – to believe!

H. PROPHECY

*“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;”*

Romans 12:6; 1

I Corinthians 12:10,28,29;

Ephesians 4:11

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of PROPHECY is the grace from God to challenge God’s people to submit to His will in a particular situation through the application of God’s Word. People with this gift have a passion to make sure that others recognize the true Word of God and do something about it. While those with the gift of teaching bring out the truth of God’s Word, those with the gift of prophecy apply God’s Word in such a way as to convince others of their need to confess, change, repent or act.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will tend to view most things from a black or white perspective. You desire to be as direct as possible when talking about spiritual issues with others. You probably don’t have any problem coming on strong or even offending others when you share what you believe God is saying in His Word to them. Even if everyone else disagrees with you, you will tend to stand firm in your conviction that God has told you, through His Word, that He wants His people to act in a certain way. Your grace of prophecy will lead you to look at people’s motives and declare without hesitation what is right or true.

As you learn to increasingly trust God with this gift of prophecy, you will experience an increased desire to ensure that the truth of God’s Word is respected, heard, proclaimed, and lived out!

***The gift of Prophecy is passion
which challenges God's people to obey.***

*“But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good. For to one is given...to another various
kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.”
1 Corinthians 12:10,28, 30*

I. KINDS (CLASSES) OF TONGUES

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of TONGUES is the grace from God to speak a foreign language which one has never learned. When Paul mentions the gift of tongues, he calls it “kinds or classes of tongues.” The Greek word “kinds” means family, race, sort, species. The Greek word for “tongues” is used to describe the physical tongue and, more generally, anything spoken by that tongue. The Bible records the occurrence of this grace in Acts 2, 10, and 19, and then and gives instruction regarding its expression within the Church in 1 Corinthians 14. From these passages we can understand the following:

- Tongues were exercised to validate the preaching of the Apostles that God was including non-Jewish people into His church (Acts 2, 10, 19; Cf. Hebrews 2:3-4);
- Tongues were expressed as a sign of God’s judgement upon unbelieving Israel for rejecting salvation in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 14:21-22);
- Speaking in tongues has something to do with speaking to or about God that can contribute to the building up of the body of Christ (Acts 2:11; 10:46; 1 Corinthians 14:2,26-28);
- Speaking in tongues needs to be accompanied by interpretation if it is to take place in the church (1 Corinthians 14:26-27);
- It’s a grace that nonbelievers may misinterpret as “madness” (1 Corinthians 14:23).
- The gift of Tongues was most likely meant for a specific context and time.
- The gift of tongues is different than the current day practice of “speaking in tongues.”

THE CURRENT EXPRESSION OF TONGUES

If you have this grace from God, you will immediately recognize a divine ability to speak another language in a cross-cultural setting, perhaps even without understanding what you are saying. Many believers today practice “speaking in tongues” which represents a personal passion for worshiping God. They say they are overwhelmed by the presence of God to the point that they “worship” or “pray” to Him in “tongues”. This practice should not be confused with the spiritual gift of classes of tongues.

J. EFFECTING OF MIRACLES

*“But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good. For to one is given...and to
another **the effecting of miracles..**”
1 Corinthians 12:10,28,29*

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of EFFECTING MIRACLES is the grace from God to pray and trust Him to perform powerful acts - acts that are perceived by others to have altered the ordinary course of nature for the purpose of spreading the Gospel.

This gift was given by God to the members of the Early Church in order to authenticate their message of the Cross of Christ in areas where it had not yet been preached.

The gift of effecting of miracles among the masses is not very common today, though we hear reports of miracles in areas among unreached people groups where the Gospel is spreading. People who have this gift sense when God is prompting them to pray for a miracle in a situation, and they watch Him do the miraculous. We need to be careful to remember that it is God who brings about miracles in the lives of His people by His own hand for His glory.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you may have found yourself in situations where the existence and power of God were in question. Or possibly you were in a family situation where you earnestly prayed for a miracle of healing when the medical profession had given up. With this grace you may have participated in an evangelistic campaign in an atheistic setting in which miracles of salvation occurred after you prayed. Perhaps you have experienced or know an individual who has been trapped in the occult or in a false religion, and that prompted you to pray for deliverance, and you watched God miraculously intervene.

***The gift of Effecting Miracles testifies to God's
sovereign power and grace in His church.***

*"But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good. For to one is given...to another
various kinds of tongues, and to another the
interpretation of tongues."
1 Corinthians 12:10,30*

K. INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES is the grace from God to translate both the message and meaning of one who expresses the gift of tongues. This gift complements and depends upon the gift of classes of tongues in order to be expressed. Unless there is a person in the church with this gift, expressing classes of tongues should not take place, according to Paul (1 Corinthians 14:26-27). People with this gift often see what others cannot when a person speaks in a foreign language, in that God gives them insight and understanding into what is being said.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will readily recognize the language that is being spoken in a situation and you will determine a way to translate both the meaning of the words and their significance to the hearers. You will most likely have a passion for worship and prayer just like the person with the gift of speaking in tongues. And you may have a growing desire for others to both understand and participate in intimate worship with God through the expression of tongues

*Interpretation of Tongues
authenticates God's power
and communicates His heart
where different languages are spoken
in the church.*

L. GIFTS OF HEALING

*"But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good....to another the gift of **healing by the one Spirit.**"*
I Corinthians 12:7-9

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of HEALING is the grace from God to diligently pray and trust God to bring about the healing of another person's physical, emotional, or spiritual need.

When Jesus served as the vessel for God's healing, we see these characteristics: The healings were instantaneous, complete, permanent, effected in unbelievers and not necessarily effected for the purpose of relieving people from their suffering.

The gift of Healing is *not* the ability to put demands on God to heal someone "on the spot", but rather to serve as an intercessor through whom God's healing power is sought. Therefore, those with the gift of Healing need to claim the healing power of God, because it is the hand of God that heals.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will have a desire to consistently pray in faith for God's supernatural healings of all manner of wounds - psychic, physical, emotional, political. You will find yourself eagerly looking for God's answer to your prayers. At times, you may feel alone, as others consider you to be naive because your faith runs counter to the conventional wisdom that concludes certain conditions are terminal and without remedy. And there may be few times or ways to verify your faith in healing as God may not reveal to you a direct relationship between your faith and prayers and what He chooses to do and when He chooses to do it.

***Those with the gift of healing bring God's tree of life
one step closer to our existence here on earth.***

*“And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace
given to us, let each exercise them accordingly,
....he who **gives** with liberality;”
Romans 12:8*

**M.
GIVING**

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of GIVING is the grace from God to willingly and cheerfully contribute any and all resources to further the work of God in and through the body of Christ. Because giving requires the use of resources, this gift is often seen in a sensitivity to steward or manage the matching of resources with problem situations as well as new opportunities to grow.

People with this grace look for ways to earn and manage resources so that ministry to people can be supported and Christ's Kingdom extended. When a need arises, those think first of how to meet it with the available resources - including time, money, energy, people, facilities, information and material goods. This gift can extend to also developing resources for future needs.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, no one has to tell you to give, you'll just want to do it! When offering this gift, you will not think of yourself; rather, you will tend to sacrifice whatever is necessary to meet the need. However, in the desire to be a good steward, you will be careful when using others as a resource not to impose your willingness to sacrifice upon them. As your gift gives you an understanding of, and value for, resources, you have or will develop a keen sensitivity to how far they can be stretched. You may be very successful in managing business, family, church or community resources and look for needs that you can meet with your giving. You would most likely manage in a way that does not draw attention or credit to you but rather in ways that give credit to others.

***The gift of Giving is a river of provision for the Body of Christ
always reflecting God's essential nature.***

N. MERCY

“...And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise the accordingly, ...he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.”
Romans 12:8

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of MERCY is the grace from God to both feel and express compassion for those who are facing physical, emotional or spiritual problems in their lives. This passion often leads to a cry against social injustice and a heartfelt commitment for society to be transformed for Christ's sake, one person at a time.

Those with the gift of Mercy can be found in places where people are hurting such as hospitals, prisons, homes for juvenile offenders and the invalid. Their first thought is, 'How can I express God's compassion for this person?' and they know what to say and how to pray for those they visit. Those who have the gift of Mercy may develop a keen sensitivity to the hurts of others and quickly spot those who are struggling by being drawn to their side. Because of their desire for a more merciful society, those who have the gift of Mercy serve as social activists by quickly responding to crisis situations and working with people behind the scenes.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you might see yourself working with the underserved and needy in your community. When you hear that someone is hurting, you will want to act quickly to remove the hurt. As you learn to trust God in His gift, you will acquire a keener sensitivity to the feelings of others and an increased capacity to both suffer and rejoice with them. The right words of encouragement for those suffering will just come to you. A midnight call for help from a friend or neighbor will energize your desire to provide advice and encouragement. Working in a soup kitchen or in a clothing bank would be a “first choice” activity for you and relief trip to very poor areas or to volunteer at the site of a natural disaster would be your idea of a missions trip.

The gift of Mercy is God's first response to a hurting world.

*““But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good. For to one is given the
word of wisdom through the Spirit..”
1 Corinthians 12:8*

O.
WORD
OF
WISDOM

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of WORD OF WISDOM is the grace from God to skillfully apply truth from God’s Word to help God’s people make right decisions in difficult situations. People with this gift balance their knowledge of God’s Word with insight into relationships. This grace involves a patience and understanding for people, and an emphasis on the practical application of Biblical truth in making decisions.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, people will tend to say that you have real insight into their lives and personal situations. As you open yourself to God’s leading you in this gift, He will enable you to discern His will in complex life situations when others are confused as to what Jesus would do. Because of this discernment, you might be called up to mediate conflict and advise others in confusing situations.

You will look for ways to point out what is “really going on” and, at the same time offer timely, relevant Biblical principles and practical solutions that will help others make the decisions you think that God would want them to make. You might find yourself memorizing Scripture in order to be better prepared to apply it when called upon by others for help in this way.

***The gift of a Word of wisdom brings practical insight
and a Godly perspective
for others to use in making difficult choices.***

P. WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

*“For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit,
and to another the **word of knowledge** according
to the same Spirit.”
1 Corinthians 12:8*

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of WORD OF KNOWLEDGE is the grace from God to uncover Biblical facts and communicate conclusions about them that encourage the growth and well-being of the community of Christ. People with this gift collect, analyze, and organize Biblical information that is vital to both individual believers and the entire church family.

Those with this gift enjoy reading and researching for knowledge based upon a true intimacy with Christ - an understanding that is God-given, true and powerful and distinct from human knowledge that puffs up.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God you probably enjoy studying and organizing the information you find. You would probably enjoy spending extra time analyzing difficult Bible passages and even documenting and inputting data for the benefit of others. It might also give you joy to find, read and highlight items from books and articles for others.

When you know someone is struggling with a spiritual issue, you'll want to find answers in the Bible and practical ways to share answers with that person. As you increasingly trust God and His gift to you, you might find yourself understanding larger issues or problems in the church and quickly locating Biblical answers to them — answers that you will share with a humble spirit and a true understanding that comes from loving and honoring God and His Word.

***The gift of a Word of Knowledge brings the right
answer from God's Word along with
guidance to any situation, question or challenge.***

*“And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly...or he who exhorts, in his **exhortation**;”*
Romans 12:8

Q.
EXHORTATION
(ENCOURAGEMENT)

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of EXHORTATION is the grace from God to serve others with words of encouragement, consolation, comfort, and motivation from God’s Word in order to help them be all that God wants them to be. This gift rests upon a desire to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop to Christlikeness.

Those with this gift desire to motivate God’s people in positive and practical ways to apply and act on Biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or doubting. The combination of encouragement with confrontation give others the impression that those with this gift have strong opinions about what course of action people should take. Therefore, when asked, they usually get right to the point. Their thinking is that if people had a better understanding of and commitment to the truth, it would change their lives. Because of this, they at times are called to teaching and counseling roles.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, how to convey spiritual truth is a major concern. You will tend to seek opportunities to tell others the truth and won’t ‘beat around the bush’ if someone asks you what you think they ought to do. You might say with little hesitation, “I think you should do this or that.” As you increasingly learn to trust God and His grace, you will use this gift to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential. Spending time over a cup of coffee inspiring and motivating others to walk more closely with God or to get more involved in God’s plan for them would be one expression of this gift, as would be teaching in a seminary or giving a public testimony.

The gift of Exhortation comes alongside people to help them to grow both personally and in their ministries.

R. TEACHING

“If service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching...”

Romans 12:7

*And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, **third teachers**, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? **All are not teachers, are they?** All are not workers of miracles, are they?”*

1 Corinthians 12:28, 29

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of TEACHING is the grace from God to systematically study and communicate the Word of God in such a way that others will learn. The motivation of teaching is not just to gain knowledge for one’s self. Rather, the passion is to pull people into the learning process so their beliefs and behaviors are changed for the better.

Those with the gift of teaching are usually articulate and offer many relevant and practical illustrations and insights from study and personal experience in ways that capture the mind’s and heart’s attention.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you thoroughly enjoy learning new things, automatically organize the new information in ways that will enable you to access it later. Indeed, as soon as you gain new spiritual insight, you may be eager to apply it and see how others can benefit from it as well. With this gift, you tend to look for opportunities to dig deep into and publicly present God’s Word. While listening to another person teach, you may find yourself trying to recognize an outline and evaluating it.

As you open yourself to God’s leading in this area of teaching, you will find ways to be more systematic in presenting God’s Word to groups and checking for their understanding and application.

The Word of God is studied, organized and conveyed to others through the gift of TEACHING.

*“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as **pastors and teachers**, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;”*
Ephesians 4:11

S.
SHEPHERD

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of SHEPHERD is the grace from God to assume the responsibility to care for the spiritual welfare of a group of people. It is only “dual” gift in the New Testament, in that it has two distinct dimensions:

- People with the gift of PASTOR-TEACHING guide God’s people like a shepherd with his sheep into the path of God’s blessing through affection, personal care, and protection from the wolves.
- People with the gift of PASTOR-TEACHING study, live and proclaim the Word of God in such a way that guides others into spiritual growth.

While the public presentation of the Word, such as in a large gathering, is a common expression of this gift, Pastor-Teaching also involves a commitment to overseeing the spiritual growth of the group God has entrusted to those with this gift. This is often accomplished by continuously looking for new ways to challenge believers to be spiritually accountable. Truth is important and searching out, verifying and organizing the facts are important attributes of this gift.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, you will look for opportunities to both dig deep into, and publicly present the truth of God’s Word. You’ll enjoy opportunities to inspire people with Spirit-led messages. When offering this gift, you will probably be found in the middle of a group, sharing stories and encouraging others to share theirs as well. And you might find yourself relating to them both in their successes and failures.

As you learn to trust God more with this gift of Pastor-Teaching, you will develop a selfless concern for the spiritual welfare of your group (flock) out of a will to obey God’s command.

***The gift of Pastor-Teaching provides food and care
for the spiritual growth of God’s people.***

T. APOSTLE

*“And God appointed in the church, first **apostles**
 Second prophets, third teachers, then miracles’
 Then gifts of healings, helps, administrations
 Various kinds of tongues.”
 1 Corinthians 12:28,29;
 Ephesians 4:11*

GIFT CHARACTERISTICS

The gift of APOSTLE is the grace from God to move into new or unfamiliar situations and exercise general leadership over groups of people or churches. The gift is used to exercise an authority in spiritual matters that people respond to and respect. Those given this grace are usually comfortable in unfamiliar or new situations adapting easily to new cultures and relating to people that are very different than themselves. Today, many people with this grace are called church planters. They give themselves to establishing and encouraging the growth of new churches where few or none exist.

EXPRESSION OF THE GIFT

If you have this grace from God, it may be expressed through a great interest in cross-cultural ministry or a strong desire for those in remote and forgotten places to hear the Word and come to Christ. You are likely to have a heart for all types of people and cultures, both to learn from them and for them to receive spiritual leadership from you. This could include people of differing cultures, life-styles, educational and home experiences, ages, handicaps and emotional limitations. Just as Jesus provided spiritual leadership for all peoples, as you open yourself to God’s leading with this gift, your greatest joy will be to reach everyone for His cause.

***The gift of Apostle establishes God’s love, truth
 and authority throughout the world.***