

Lesson Ten

"Discovering My Spiritual Gifts - One"

Objective: To discover our own spiritual gifts and provide a Scriptural understanding of these gifts and ministries set in the Body of Christ in order to have a productive and effective church

God created us all so amazingly with different gifts and talents and things we enjoy doing. Some people have a passion for one thing while others are passionate for things just the opposite. God created us this way so that each of us bring what the other needs and are lacking. When we all come together in unity with our diversities, we make up a complete body. Each of us is important! It is critical that you see yourself as a unique puzzle piece, created and celebrated by God to be perfectly fit and joined with other believers to accomplish His goals effectively. Without you, we all miss out!

Eph 4:15-16 NKJV ...but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ — 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

Rom 12:4-8 & 1 Cor 12:12-31

<u>A.</u>

This the distinctive <u>ability to work with and support</u> leaders and other helpers ministry efforts.

Greek: Antilepsis (an-til-ape-sis) Relief; to take hold of in turn; participate

A person with the gift of helps always looks for an opportunity to help others accomplish goals.

We've all heard phrases like these, "Too many cooks spoil the broth" – "Too many chief's and not enough Indians." In other words, we need visionaries and leaders in the body of Christ, but if we are all leaders and have no one to help accomplish the goal, nothing gets done. The ministry of helps is critical and one of the most important gifts in the body! An army wouldn't be much of an army if everyone was a commander with no one to send out to fight.

1. God ______ the ministry of helps.

<u>**1 Cor. 12:28**</u> NKJV And <u>God has appointed these in the church</u>: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps**, administrations, varieties of tongues.

Rom. 16:1-2 NKJV I commend to you Phoebe our sister, **who is a servant of the church** in Cenchrea, that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a <u>helper of many and of myself also</u>.

2. Being servant hearted, makes you the _____ in the kingdom of God.

<u>Matt. 20:26-28</u> NKJV Yet it shall not be so among you; but **whoever desires** to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, Set him be your slave--just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

3. How can I _____ this gift in the church?

The ministry of helps operates as a helper to those in ministry. They are followers of those who minister and are very comfortable working behind the scenes with little or no recognition. They are truly joyful and fulfilled helping others. Every department in our church needs helpers but the following departments would be great for you to plug into.

Circle the departments you would be interested in assisting the leader:

Usher, Welcome Host, Parking Host, VIP Hosts, Guest Services, Believe

Bookstore and Boutique, CD Duplication and Publishing, Printing and

Publication, Education Department, Building Excellence Team, Campus Grounds

Excellence Team, Church Decorating, Hospitality and Serving Team –

Ambassador Grill, Stage Right Teen Ministry, Media Department, Pastoral Care

and Concern, Pastoral Personal Assistant, Small Groups, Children's Ministry and Nursery.

<u>B.</u>

This gift is the distinctive ability to influence others according to the "big picture" purpose, mission or plan.

Greek: proistemi (pro-is-tay-mee) to preside; rule; be over; maintain; stand

Rom 12:8 NIV if it is leadership, let him govern diligently

Leaders automatically rise up in situations where there is chaos and no direction. They are people who see the big picture and ca lead a team into success.

Leaders keep us all moving towards vision. That's why it's so important for leaders to keep themselves stirred up and excited about ministry because their attitude is

contagious. If the helpers see the leadership lagging, they also will lag. On the other hand, if they see excited consistent leadership, helpers will be excited and consistent.

Leaders lead with diligence and with the same heart as a helper. We are all serving the Lord Jesus Christ through serving one another with our gifts. So we can't get a swelled head if we discover we have a leadership gift.

1. Leadership requires _____

It has been my experience that if you want to see what kind of character a person really has, give them a little power and authority. Over the years, I have learned to not only see the leadership potential in people and place them in a position over others but I have learned to watch for their character to be proven. It can be tricky, because sometimes, once a person is given power and they are still spiritually immature, they can do more damage than good.

2. Our leading must be done with _____, care and concern for those we are leading.

3. We can't be bossy or use our position to ______ others.

<u>Rom 12:6-8</u> MSG If you preach, just preach God's Message, nothing else; 7 if you help, just help, don't take over; if you teach, stick to your teaching; 8 if you give encouraging guidance, be careful that you don't get bossy; if you're put in charge, don't manipulate...

4. How can I use this gift in church?

Those with the gift of leadership have the ability to lead or guide others in specific tasks or toward a common goal. They are very comfortable taking the lead when there is none and people will willingly follow them. To lead means to show the way by going in advance. Leaders are influencers. You could use this gift to lead in any department where your influence would be an asset.

<u>C.</u>

This gift is the distinctive ability to make people feel at home, welcomed, cared for, comfortable and part of the group.

1. Those with the gift of hospitality love to throw parties and open their _____ to others.

<u>1 Peter 4:9-10</u> NKJV Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. 10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

<u>Luke 10:38-39</u> NKJV Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house.

2. How can I use this gift to minister in our church?

Since a person with the gift of hospitality is super friendly and looks for any opportunity to make people feel welcome and at home, the following departments would be a perfect fit for you:

Welcome host, Usher, Guest Services, Hospitality and Serving (Ambassador Grille), Parking Host, VIP Host, Small Group Leader/Host, Believe Bookstore and Boutique, Children's Department Welcome Host and Sign In.

D.

This gift is the ability to identify and meet the practical needs of others.

In the early church the service of ministering to the widows and orphans came up as an issue because those called to preach and teach raising up new disciples were being sidetracked with the practical service that was needed to care for them. They came up with a perfect solution. **The results were phenomenal!**

<u>Acts 6:1-7</u> NIV In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 <u>So the word of God spread</u>. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Eph 6:7-8 NIV Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, 8 because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does...

1. Where could I use this gift in our church?

The gift of service identifies areas of practical need and serves there. You are meticulous about order and no task is too small or menial for you. You love doing the practical jobs that most don't even notice. You would feel honored to get to serve an any area and would mostly do so with no one asking you to or honoring you for it. You are very dependable and will usually get jobs done on time. You are most joyful and fulfilled in serving others. (See helps ministry options)

<u>E.</u>

This gift is the ability to coordinate and organize people, projects and things. You are an organizer and a planner. Joseph is a good example of an organizer and a planner. He

organized and planned for success in every situation he found himself in. He organized and planned for success in tough economic times and was victorious.

Luke 14:28-30 NIV "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? 29 For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, 30 saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

1. How can I use this gift in church?

Your gifts would be helpful anywhere organization or coordination is needed. You are very goal oriented and are always ready to move on to new projects. You have no problem delegating responsibility to others and making important decisions, even under pressure, are a breeze. Some people may mistake you for being "too bossy" but it's just God's gift of administration at work in His child. Planning projects of any kind or filing, organizing offices and storerooms would be a blessing. Believe Bookstore and Boutique would be a wonderful place to use your gift organizing the staff to run it, re-arranging stock to keep it looking fun and fresh, keeping track of items and Cd's needing to be re-ordered and re-stocked and following through until all projects are finished! Administrators are a blessing because leadership can turn over tasks to them without having to worry if they will complete it.

<u>F.</u>

This is the ability to perceive whether situations originate from Godly, satanic or merely human sources. The dictionary describes it as... *the act or process of exhibiting keen insight and good judgment*.

1. The gift of discernment is an ______ of and given by the Holy Spirit within you and is available to every believer based on your situations.

Peter - Matthew 16:15-17 & Matthew 16:21-23

<u>1 Cor 12:7-11</u> NIV Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, **to another distinguishing between spirits**, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as <u>he determines</u>.

2. Discernment helps you identify ______ teachings and the anti Christ spirit.

1 John 4:1-3 NKJV Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because **many false prophets** have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus

Christ has come in the flesh is of God, 3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

Discernment is the gift that is like an internal warning alarm that lets you know that even though everything appears to be great in a situation or an opportunity, it's really not. Or when everything seems wrong, it's really ok. Discernment helps us to judge what's happening spiritually or naturally. It's the ability to judge a situation accurately. Most of what we discern can be judged by the Word of God. If it does not line up with His word, it's not Him!

Spiritual Gifts Discovery Key

- A. Helps
- **B.** Leadership
- C. Hospitality
- D. Service
- E. Administration
- F. Discernment
- G. Faith
- H. Music
- I. Tongues and Interpretation
- J. Miracles
- K. Craftsmanship
- L. Healing
- M. Giving
- N. Mercy
- O. Wisdom
- P. Knowledge
- **Q. Exhortation**
- R. Teaching
- S. Pastor/Shepherd
- T. Apostleship
- U. Missionary
- V. Prophecy
- W. Evangelist
- X. Intercession