

IDENTITY CRISIS
FINDING YOUR TRUE IDENTITY IN CHRIST
I AM GIFTED
Ephesians 4:1-16

LESSON AIM-To help believers recognize and appreciate the gifts of the spirit.

WHAT IS A SPIRITUAL GIFT?

“charisma” is the Greek word for spiritual gift

- A spiritual gift is the God-given capacity of every Christian to carry out his function in the body of Christ.
- Spiritual gifts are ‘spiritual’ in nature for they are given by the Holy Spirit to every believer.
- Spiritual gifts differ from human talents and abilities in that they result in ‘spiritual’ fruit.

THE PURPOSE FOR YOUR GIFT

- ◆ **Spiritual gifts are not given to benefit the individual, but the entire body.**
- ◆ **Spiritual gifts are given to enable us to carry out every essential function of the body.**

WHEN YOU FIND AND OPERATE IN YOUR GIFT, YOU:

Contribute to “the unity of the Spirit in the bond peace.” v. 3

Edify “the body of Christ.” v. 12

Encourage “unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.” v. 13

Help people grow to the “fullness of Christ.” v. 13

Increase the number of biblically mature people who are no longer “tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine.” v. 14

Learn to both give and receive “truth in love.” v. 15

Grow to appreciate different Christians as your work together causes you to be “joined and knit together”. v. 16

See “growth of the body”. v. 16

Help the church “grow “in love” for both those in the church and those who do not yet know Jesus. v. 16

PRINCIPLES ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

- **Our gifts need cultivation and maturity through discipleship and growth.**
- **There is a difference between giftedness and maturity.**
- **Sometimes the best way to discover your gift is by trial and error.**

CLASSIFICATION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

- **POSITION GIFTS**-Position gifts are those gifts that closely relate to the clerical offices of the Church such as the pastor, teacher, apostle, prophet, and evangelist. **Eph 4:11-12**
- **SERVICE GIFTS**-Service gifts are less spectacular and non-sensational. All believers are called to perform service functions, but some are gifted to perform them more easily, with a higher energy level and more effectively. **Rom 12:6-8**
- **MIRACULOUS GIFTS**-Miraculous gifts are special, sensational, spectacular gifts that are given for a special situation or circumstance, but also to the New Testament were given to authenticate the gospel to unbelievers. **1 Cor 12:7-11**