

# Discovering Spiritual Gifts

**T**he gifts of the Spirit are a vital part of who God has created us to be. Therefore, we must press in and discover the gifts given because they play a significant role in all that God intends to do before the second coming of Christ.

*1 Corinthians 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.*

Because the gifts of the Spirit play a significant role in the end-time environment, we need to fan the flame by stirring them up. We have all received at least one of the gifts of the Spirit. In his letters to the churches, Paul says God gave gifts for the profit of all. Therefore, God desires that we all discover and use the spiritual gifts He gave us. We will not experience the fullness God has ordained for our lives unless we find out and use the gifts freely given to us by the Holy Spirit. Once discovered, we must then fan them into existence by using them regularly.

In Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians, he was concerned that they would not be lacking concerning the gifts of the Holy Spirit as the day of the Lord draws near.<sup>1</sup> His heart towards them was that they would be well used in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which prompted him to spend ample time explaining their proper usage for the glorification of the body of Christ.

Paul also wrote to Timothy to stir up the gift of God which he received. To stir means to kindle afresh or keep in full flame. Metaphorically, it refers to the fact that the gift of God is like a fire capable of dying out through neglect. In other words, we must continually fan the flames with fresh kindling.

Knowing we have access to the gifts of the Spirit through the Holy Spirit, it is our responsibility to discover them. So then, as the Father distributes His gifts as He wills,<sup>2</sup> He prepares our hearts to receive all we need for the tasks and purposes He has called us to so that we can go forth as His flames of fire filled with His passion.<sup>3</sup>

Discovery is the key that unlocks our spiritual gifts. How do we go about it? There are no simple answers or specific steps. It's a process that comes with our relationship with God the Father through Jesus Christ as the Holy Spirit searches the heart of the Father for those things that concern our lives. He explores the heart of the Father for the spiritual gift or gifts that are best suited for who He created us to be.

*1 Corinthians 2:9-10 But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." <sup>10</sup> But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.*

Through our relationship with Christ, we begin to discover all that He has created us to be. As we grow and mature in Christ, we catch glimpses of our purpose and ministries. As we begin to grasp who we are in Christ, we should think about what gifts of the Spirit would best match our callings. In the letter to the Corinthians, he tells us to desire the best gifts. What are the best gifts? They are the ones that are the best suited for who you are in Christ. The key to fanning the flame for your spiritual gift to burst into an intense love that ministers to others is desire. You must have a sincere desire to be used by God to minister in the gifts of the Spirit.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Corinthians 1:7

<sup>2</sup> 1 Corinthians 12:11

<sup>3</sup> Psalm 104:3

Once you discover the best gift for who God created you to be, you must begin to press in by learning everything you can about it. Study and seek out others who are well used in it and learn from them. We must step out in faith and start using His gifts at some point. Paul wrote to the Romans, *“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry; he who teaches, in teaching, he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”*

It is of vital importance that we allow God to plant us in local expressions of the body of Christ where we have the liberty to grow and mature in the gifting and ministries to which He calls us to engage. The Church is the body of Christ. It needs its members to function together in unity and harmony with one another for God’s glory to manifest in their communities. As each member determines to stir or fan their gifts into flames, we become the flames of fire God has ordained us to be.