

# God's Gifts

## The Purpose of God's Gifts

The purpose of the gifts to us by our Father, His Son - Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit is to use the gifts to bring Glory to God. In short, we have been given gifts so that we may use them for the purpose of becoming like the Giver of gifts.

*For God's gifts and His call are irrevocable.*

Romans 11:29 AMP

## The Plan for the Use of God's Gifts in Our Lives

Every member of the body of Christ has a specific task to perform in order that the body of Christ functions properly. Like our natural bodies, some functions have a greater responsibility, and others play less critical roles. No matter how small, every member is necessary and significant for the body of Christ to function in God's divine order.

*From him (Christ) the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

Ephesians 4:16 NIV

One of life's greatest challenges in our Christian walk is to recognize our unique gift(s) and calling and then begin to act upon God's plan for our lives. As you study the various gifts and learn how you are created in His image and likeness, you begin to discover the various gifts God has graciously imparted to you and just how you fit in the body of Christ. You will also discover the ministry and people you are called to serve with your gift(s) from God.

*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.*

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

## The General Plan For The Use of Our Gifts in Life

God's most general purpose for all individuals in the corporate body of Christ is for us to glorify God by becoming Christ-like.

*Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.*

1 Peter 2:12 NIV

We are to use our God-given gifts to promote our faith, not just in word but in deed. Believing what God has spoken, and knowing our position as a child in the family of God, leads us to doing good deeds.

*Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

James 2:17 NIV

Gifted with God's love and grace we received with the shedding of Jesus' blood to redeem us from our sins, we are inspired to live for God and rest in His love.

*God is Love.*

1 John 4:8 NLT

The Father's love, gifting us eternal life, and giving good gifts, inspires us to fulfill his most basic plan to become Christ-like by obeying his Word.

*And now I want to urgently remind you, dear friends, of the old rule God gave us right from the beginning, that Christians should love one another. If we love God, we will do whatever he tells us to. And he has told us from the very first to love each other.*

2 John 1:5-6 TLB

# THE FATHER

## Gifts From Our Father

*Every generous act and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights; with Him there is no variation or shadow cast by turning.* James 1:17 HCSB

The Father of lights gives us GIFTS THROUGH CREATION; that is, personal gifts from being made in His image and likeness: our natural God-given skills and talents. Your Assets or Strengths are unique and play an important role in God's plans for humanity. God's gifts are varied for the benefit of His kingdom. Gifts in the arts and sciences, athletics, verbal and social skills, sales and trades, etc. can be likened to pieces in a puzzle that all fit together to complete a singular picture: God's plan for man.

## God's Gift of His Son, Jesus

Jesus gives us the gift of eternal **SALVATION**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.* John 3:16 NASB

The Greek word for salvation is **sozo**. Sozo also denotes victory in this lifetime with provision, protection, prosperity, and peace. Provided with grace and unmerited favor, believers are redeemed from the curse of the Law which brought death. Spreading the message of **GRACE AND TRUTH** is our mission on earth. (Review Quick Note on Salvation)

*And the Word (Christ) became flesh, and lived among us; and we [actually] saw His glory, glory as belongs to the [One and] only begotten Son of the Father, [the Son who is truly unique, the only One of His kind, who is] full of grace and truth (absolutely free of deception).*

John 1: 14 NASB

## God's Gift of the Word

Knowing and acting on God's Word, we will achieve true success.

*This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.* Joshua 1:8. NASB

# THE SON

## The Seven Motive Gifts (personality traits) of Jesus

Everyone has a special gift...

*Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to use them properly: if prophecy, in proportion to one's faith; if service, in the act of serving; or the one who teaches, in the act of teaching; or the one who exhorts, in the work of exhortation; the one who gives with generosity; the one who is in leadership, with diligence; who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.*

Romans 12:6-8 AMPC

“(whose gift is) **PROPHECY**, (let him prophesy) according to the proportion of his faith;

(whose gift is) practical service, let him give himself to **SERVING**;

who teaches, to his **TEACHING**;

(who exhorts, encourages); to his **EXHORTATION**;

who contributes (**GIVING**), let him do it in simplicity and liberality;

who gives aid and superintends, (**ORGANIZATION**) with zeal and singleness of mind;

who does acts of **MERCY**, with genuine cheerfulness and joyful eagerness.”

**Seven Character Attributes of Jesus** Matthew 5: 4-9 NIV (applies below)

**VISION** Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**DECISION** Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

**DISCIPLINE** Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**DESIRE** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

**COMPASSION** Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**COMMITMENT** Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

**COURAGE** Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

For details on these seven character attributes visit [www.visiblelight.org](http://www.visiblelight.org), [articlesoftransformation.com](http://articlesoftransformation.com)

## The Five-Fold Ministry Callings of Christ

Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers,

Eph 4:11-13 NIV

## THE HOLY SPIRIT

### The Gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

In Christian theology, baptism of the Holy Spirit has been interpreted differently by Christian denominations. Some believe the baptism of the Spirit occurs at the same time as water baptism. But scripture documents the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Water Baptism are two distinct and separate encounters.

### The Born Again Experience

In John 20:22, Jesus said **receive ye the Holy Spirit**. What does “**receive the Holy Spirit**” actually mean to believers? In Greek, Holy Spirit is “**pneuma hagion**” literally meaning “holy breath”: the breath of God... the breath of life! Just as God breathed into Adam the breath of life (Genesis 2:7) and man became a living soul, the Holy Spirit entering man is the life giving gift of the “**born again**” experience, meaning your spirit is given eternal life in the family of God.

### The Baptism of the Holy Spirit Experience

Scripture clearly states the distinction between the baptisms where the same disciples received the Holy Spirit “*in them*”, (John 20:22), and later when the **same disciples** received power when the Holy Spirit “*came upon them*”.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.*  
Acts 1:8 NASB

This is a clear distinctive that there are two separate Holy Spirit encounters.

### The Result of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

*As Jesus promised, on the day of Pentecost the disciples and others were gathered in the upper room were baptized in the Holy Spirit: “All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”* Acts 2:4 NIV

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit empowers believers to proclaim the Gospel with power and demonstration according to the will, knowledge, and power of God.

### Gifts of the Holy Spirit

(1 Corinthians 12:4-11 AMP applies below)

*There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

1. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of **wisdom**, and
2. to another the utterance of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit,
3. to another **faith** by the same Spirit,
4. to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit,
5. to another the working of **miracles**,
6. to another **prophecy**,
7. to another the **discernment of spirits**,
8. to another various kinds of **tongues**,
9. to another the **interpretation of tongues**.

The first 3 gifts are for us to **KNOW**, the next 3 are to **DO**, and the last 3 to **SPEAK**.

### How to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

*Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ASK him!*  
Luke 11: 9-13 TLB

Notice you are to ask. These are born again Christians. The lost do not ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit but they repent and ask for Jesus to save them from their sins. Pray, Ask! and receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### Fruit of the Holy Spirit

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*  
Galatians 5:22 NASB

## Begin to List the Gifts God Has Given to You

Have you received Jesus, God's perfect gift, as your Lord and Savior?

Have you followed Christ in water baptism?

Identify the physical and mental attributes, talents or skills, and spiritual gifts God has given to you.

Have you received the Holy Spirit? Ask and receive! Luke 11:9-13 TLB

What gifts of the Holy Spirit have manifested in your life? 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 AMP

What motive gift do you recognize as prominent in your life? Romans 12:6-8 NASB

What character attributes of Jesus do you recognize in your life?

Meditate on Matthew 5:4-6

Do you recognize a calling on your life: Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, Teacher?  
Ephesians 4:11-16 NASB

What is God's plan for your life? Jeremiah 29:11 NASB  
Spirit, Soul, Body, Material:

***Begin a journal to chart your reflections, transformations,  
and use of the gifts God has placed in your life.***

Go to [www.articlesoftransformation.com](http://www.articlesoftransformation.com) to obtain the books  
***The Articles of Transformation*** and ***Personal Discovery Journal***  
to unlock the secrets for becoming all God has created you to be!

\*A variety of Bible translations and paraphrases have been used in the ***Quick Notes*** for clarity.  
We recommend [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com) as a Bible resource and study aid.



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