

## ***Discovering Your Spiritual Gift***

### **I. GOD MADE YOU UNIQUE**

- A. God has made each one of us uniquely. He has outfitted us with a personality and a set of gifts that only you can fulfill. When we study spiritual gifts, it is important to rightly understand them and how they fit into the framework of our calling in Christ.

*“For I say through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body but all members do not have the same function, so we being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.” (Rom. 12:3-5).*

- B. We were created to function together in one body, in the body of Christ! We are many members individually, yet one body that is to function towards the whole. There is no place for “individualism” in Christ. We are all part of the family of God, fulfilling the purpose of God in our generation, to our world!

### **II. RIGHTLY DIVIDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

- A. As we study the Word we need to rightly understand what kinds of spiritual gifts there are and how they fit into our lives and church life. Pentecostal scholars generally divide them as follows: Gifts of the Father (Basic life purpose and motivation – Rom. 12:3-8). Gifts of the Holy Spirit (9 gifts of the Holy Spirit – 1 Cor. 12:8-10,28). Gifts of the Son (Also known as the 5-fold ministry gifts – Eph. 4:11, 1Cor. 12:28, To facilitate and equip the Body of the Church).

*“Having then gifts (charisma – a divine gratuity) differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophecy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering, he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy with cheerfulness” (Rom. 12:6-8).*

*“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” (1 Peter 4:10).*

- B. There are seven basic motivational gifts that make each one of us unique. This is what makes you, you! What you are is God’s gift to you! No one can be you, like you can! That’s why it is so important to let your gift flourish.
- C. Here is a quick explanation of each of the motivational gifts: Prophecy – A discourse emanating from divine inspiration declaring the purposes of God. Ministry – Those who by command of God proclaim and promote religion among men. Teaching – To hold discourse with others to instruct them. Exhort – To call to ones side, to entreat, to comfort, to admonish. Giving – To share, to impart. Leading – To set over, to be a protector or guardian. Mercy – To be compassionate by word or deed, to show pity.

- D. The other two categories of spiritual gifts (The nine gifts of the Holy Spirit, 5-fold ministry gifts) will be covered later in another study on spiritual gifts.

### III. LIVING LIKE A REAL CHRISTIAN

- A. Many in the world we live in today have a misperception of what a real Christian is like. Believers often get criticized for being intolerant or hateful, but the truth is, real Christians are not that way at all if they are living according to the Word of God.

- B. In Romans 12, the apostle Paul encourages early believers – Live Like a Real Christian!

***“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as it depends on you, live peaceably with all men” (Rom. 12:9-18).***

1. Let love be without hypocrisy (sincere, void of pretension).
2. Be kindly affectionate... with brotherly love (Cherish ones kindred).
3. Not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit (to be earnest, persevere. Fervent – to boil).
4. Rejoicing in hope (Hope means to anticipate something).
5. Patient in tribulation (*hypomeno* – to have fortitude, to patiently persevere)
6. Continuing steadfastly in prayer – to endure, to stay the course (Acts 1:14).
7. Be of the same mind. Find agreement in Christ and work toward the common goal.
8. Be humble and have a humble estimation of self – to yield, submit to lowly things.
9. Have regard for good things – valuable, virtuous, honest, worthy things.
10. Live peaceably with all men – make peace, cultivate peace (as much as depends on you)
11. Overcome evil with good – bless those who curse you.