



# THE CHURCH AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*Volume 5*

*Section B*



General Conference  
Ministerial Association



*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”*

*1 Peter 4:10*



# **I. The Bible and spiritual gifts**



*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”*

*1 Peter 4:10*



*“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”*

***Romans 12:6-8***

*“Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.... There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom,*



*to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 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. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”*

**1 Corinthians 12:1,4-11**





*“But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. This is why it says: ‘When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people’... So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and*



*teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”*

***Ephesians 4:7-8,11-13***





*“So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.”*

*1 Corinthians 14:12*



## **II. Some of the spiritual gifts mentioned in the Bible**



- *Ephesians 4:11*. Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers.
- *Romans 12:6-8*. Prophesying, serving, encouraging, giving, leading, showing mercy.
- *1 Corinthians 12:7-10*. Wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in different kinds of tongues, interpretation of tongues.



- *1 Corinthians 12:28*. Apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, healing, helping, guidance, different kinds of tongues.
- *1 Corinthians 7:5*. Self-control.
- *1 Corinthians 13:3*. Giving up material possessions.



- *1 Corinthians 13:3*. Martyrdom.
- *1 Peter 4:9*. Hospitality.
- *Acts 8:5-8*. Casting out evil spirits.
- *Acts 12:12*. Intercessory prayer.
- *Romans 11:13*. Missionary spirit.



# **III. The Spirit of Prophecy and spiritual gifts**



*“God has set in the church different gifts. These are precious in their proper places, and all may act a part in the work of preparing a people for Christ’s soon coming.”*

**GW 481**



*“Sermons have been in great demand in our churches. The members have depended upon pulpit declamations instead of on the Holy Spirit. Uncalled for and unused, the spiritual gifts bestowed on them have dwindled into feebleness.”*

**1SM 127**





*“Ministers frequently neglect these important branches of the work—health reform, spiritual gifts, systematic benevolence, and the great branches of the missionary work.”*

**Ev 256**



# **IV. Biblical reasons for spiritual gifts**



1. Edification of the body of Christ.

*Ephesians 4:12-16*

2. Strengthen the faith of the believers.

*Romans 1:11*

3. Mutually encourage each other's faith.

*Romans 1:12*



4. Manifestation of the Spirit  
for the common good.

*1 Corinthians 12:7*

5. Growing and building in love.

*Ephesians 4:16*

6. Be alert and of sober mind  
into prayer.

*1 Peter 4:7*



7. Equip the saints for service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

*Ephesians 4:12*

8. Reach unity in the faith and the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

*Ephesians 4:13*

9. That the believers stand firm, no longer infants tossed back and forth.

*Ephesians 4:14*

*“They were then baptized in the name of Jesus, and as Paul ‘laid his hands upon them,’ they received also the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by which they were enabled to speak the languages of other nations and to prophesy. Thus they were qualified to labor as missionaries in Ephesus and its vicinity and also to go forth to proclaim the gospel in Asia Minor.”*

**AA 283**





# **V. Sound advice**





- Be aware that God has given you gifts and talents.
- Use the gifts and talents God has given you.
- It is not humbling to think and say that we have no gifts.
- Discover new gifts God has given to you.



- It is not an indication of being prideful to recognize the abilities God has given.
- Try to help others to also discover their gifts and talents.
- Promote in your church the use of its gifts and talents.
- Never think that in your church there are members who have no gifts.

- Motivate the members of your church so that they discover all of their potential.
- Ask God to show you your hidden gifts and talents.
- When you discover a new gift or talent, remember that you received it for the common good of the church and not for personal gain.



- When someone congratulates you because of your abilities, do not forget to give the glory to God.
- Appreciate the gifts and talents of the other church members.
- Ask God to help you discover all of your potential and be assured that God will do it.
- Do not forget that if you are motivated by vanity to ask God to grant you special gifts, such is not God's will.





- If the gifts God gave you are used for His glory, the Lord may very well grant you more gifts.
- But if the gifts God gave you are not used for His glory, you will probably not have that privilege.
- God gives and takes depending on our actions and use of the blessings that He bestows upon us.

# Conclusion



*“To every one work has been allotted, and no one can be a substitute for another. Each one has a mission of wonderful importance, which he cannot neglect or ignore, as the fulfillment of it involves the weal of some soul, and the neglect of it the woe of one for whom Christ died.”*

**ChS 10**