



GRACE LIFE 101

Participating with Christ in the Life of the Church

...we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him 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 4:15-16)

Session 8: Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Common Call for All Believers

Greatest Command: Love God, Love Neighbor (*Matthew 22:35-40*)

Put Another Way: Know Christ and Make Him Known

Unique Call for You

Know Your SHAPE

Spiritual Gifts

Heart

Abilities

Personality

Experiences

Spiritual Gifts

“Spiritual”

“Gifts”

- **1 Corinthians 12**
- Romans 12: 3-8
- Ephesians 4: 11-16

Ephesians 4: 11	Romans 12: 6-8	I Corinthians 12: 8-10	I Corinthians 12: 28-30
Apostles			Apostles
Prophets	Prophecy	Prophecy	Prophets
Evangelists			
Pastor – teachers*	Teaching		Teachers
	Leading		
	Giving		
	Encouraging		
	Showing mercy		
	Serving		Helps
			Administrations
* can be translated as		A word of wisdom	
1 gift: Pastor-Teacher		A word of knowledge	
Or 2: Pastor, Teacher		Faith	
		Healings	Healings
		Workings of miracles	Miracles
		Distinguishing of spirits	
		Speak in kinds of tongues	Speak in kinds of tongues
		Interpretation of tongues	Interpret (tongues)

See descriptions of each Spiritual Gift at the end of this handout

Heart (Passions)

- Know what drives you
- Know what you care about
- Know the needs you will meet
- Know the cause you will help conquer
- Know your ultimate dream for God's Kingdom

Abilities

Personality

Experiences

Where Do You Fit at Grace?

How will you use your SHAPE

- In **Worshiping** God
- In **Strengthening** Believers
- In **Sharing** Christ



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THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

HELPS AND SERVICE

Romans 12:7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

DEFINED: The ability to joyfully work alongside another and help that person complete the task God has given them. People with this gift generally prefer to work behind the scenes. They also tend to find joy in helping alleviate the burdens and responsibilities of others. This gift is usually accompanied with an attitude of humility and sacrifice as well as an ability to perceive the needs of others.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Matthew 20:28 says that "the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jesus also said, "I am among you as one who serves," and He even washed His disciples feet (Luke 22:27)

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you enjoy helping others become more effective in their work? (2) Do you prefer to labor behind the scenes? (3) When someone is doing a job poorly is your first instinct to help them instead of criticize? (4) Do you prefer to work in a supportive rather than a leadership capacity? (5) When you hear of someone with needs, do you offer your services if possible? (6) When someone asks for your help, do you have difficulty saying no?

PASTOR

Ephesians 4:11

DEFINED: In one sense, pastor is the office reserved for those men who meet the Biblical criteria (1 Tim. 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9). In another sense there is a pastoral gift also commonly known as shepherding or counseling that God gives to people in the Church. These people protect, guide, counsel, and disciple other people.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus is called the "good Shepherd" (John 10:11-14, etc) and the "Chief Shepherd" (1 Peter 5:4). Also, the Bible gives us snapshots of Jesus sitting with people to pastor them, such as His interaction with the Samaritan woman at the well, the rich young ruler, Peter, etc.

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you have a deep love for people that compels you to care for them? (2) Do you enjoy meeting with people to listen to their life story and provide them biblical counsel? (3) When you hear that someone is hurting is your first instinct to try and meet with them to be of help? (4) Are you able to point out sin and folly in someone's life in a loving way that they receive as helpful? (5) Do you enjoy meeting with Christians to help them mature in their faith? (6) do people pursue you for counsel and instruction?

FAITH

1 Corinthians 12:9

DEFINED: The ability to envision what needs to be done and trust God to accomplish it even though it might seem difficult or even impossible to most people. Those with the gift of faith tend to be hopeful, persevering, change-oriented, and future focused. They also tend to be very convinced and convincing about the truths of Scripture.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: In one sense, Jesus' entire life and ministry could be summarized as one of faith because He continually and perfectly trusted in the Father in all things.

EVANGELISM

Ephesians 4:11

DEFINED: The ability and desire to boldly and clearly communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ so that non-Christians can become Christians. Evangelists feel compassion for the lost and seek to earnestly understand their questions and doubts so that they can provide a compelling answer. An evangelist often prefers being with people in the culture than hanging out with just Christians.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Luke 19:10 says that "the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." People accused Jesus of being "a friend of tax collectors and sinners" because He had many

DISCERNMENT

1 Corinthians 12:10

DEFINED: The ability to quickly perceive whether such things as people, events, or beliefs are from God or sin and Satan when others might have difficulty recognizing the difference.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus knew the presence of Satan, saw when someone was influenced by Satan (Luke 22:31), and knew when someone's words were influenced by Satan (Matthew 16:23).

HEALING

1 Corinthians 12:9

DEFINED: The ability to call on God to heal the sick through supernatural means. People with this gift see healing as a sign that God uses to reveal Himself as He so chooses. People with this gift do not see someone healed every time they ask God.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: The gospels speak of Jesus many healings.

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you view obstacles as opportunities and trust God for the impossible? (2) Do you find yourself frequently boasting about the power of God and what you have seen Him do? (3) Do you get motivated by new ministries? (4) Do you find yourself feeling opposed to anyone who expresses that something cannot be done or accomplished (5) Do you find other believers coming to you for hope when they face a seemingly overwhelming trial or task. (6) Do you have an effective prayer ministry with many wonderful answers to prayers that may have seemed impossible?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you enjoy being with non-Christians and sharing about Christ? (2) Are you able to effectively communicate to non-Christians in a language they can understand? (3) Does a person's conversion bring you profound joy? (4) Do you feel frustrated when you haven't shared your faith for a while? (5) Do you enjoy teaching others how to share their faith? (6) Do you find it easy to direct a conversation toward the topic of Jesus Christ?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Have you felt a special responsibility to protect the truth of God's Word by exposing that which is wrong? (2) Do you often make a swift evaluation of someone or something that was said that others did not see, but yet proved to be correct. (3) Do you have an awareness of demonic presence and how to help people be free of it? (4) Do others affirm your insight into various situations?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you have a deep compassion for people who are sick? (2) Do you have a deep conviction that God can heal anyone He chooses? (3) Do you enjoy praying for people who are sick? (4) Have you seen God heal someone in direct connection to your prayers for them?

ENCOURAGEMENT

Romans 12:8

DEFINED: Involves motivating, encouraging, and consoling others so they mature in their walk with Jesus. Christians with this gift have an unusual sensitivity for and are attracted to those who are discouraged or struggling. As a result, people tend to pursue them for healing words, gracious truth, and compassionate counsel. These people may have a knack for one-on-one relationships and prefer working with an individual or small group

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus taught us to love even our enemies and do good to them and exhorted people to "leave your life of sin" (John 8:11)

GIVING

Romans 12:8

DEFINED: The ability to give money and other forms of wealth joyfully, wisely, and generously to meet the needs of others and help support the ministry of Christ's Church. These people genuinely view their time, treasures, and talents as on loan from God and not their own. They enjoy giving themselves and earnestly pray for the various needs of the Church

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Roughly 25% of Jesus' words in the gospels are related to our resources and stewardship of them. Though He was poor, Jesus gave us His life as a gift (John 15:13).

LEADERSHIP

Romans 12:8

DEFINED: Often manifests in a clear, significant vision from God and the ability to communicate it publicly or privately in such a way that they influence others to pursue that vision.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus was such a gifted leader that in His day thousands followed Him and today billions follow Him as the greatest leader who has ever lived.

PROPHECY

1 Corinthians 12

DEFINED: In the broadest sense, it is speaking the word of God into various situations, cultural and personal in order to challenge, edify, convict, or even foretell.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus was the consummate revealer of God's word

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do people seek you out for advice and encouragement? (2) Do you enjoy walking with someone through difficulties? (3) Are you attracted to those who are hurting and needy? (4) Are you patient with people? (5) Would you rather speak personally with someone about their problems rather than send them to someone else for help? (6) Do you find it easy to express joy in the presence of those who are suffering?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? Do you tend to see the needs of others more than other people? (2) Do you enjoy giving your time, talent, and treasure to others? (3) Do you see giving to a worthwhile project as an exciting honor and privilege? (4) Do you give to the church regularly, cheerfully, and sacrificially? (5) Do you often hear people commenting that you are a generous person? (6) Do you find yourself looking for opportunities to give your money – even when no one asks?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do others have confidence in your ability to lead? (2) Do you enjoy being the "final voice" or the one with the overall responsibility for the direction and success of a group or organization? (3) When a difficult situation arises, do others look to you for input and leadership? (4) Do you usually take leadership in a group where none exists? (5) Do you find leadership enjoyable rather than frustrating and difficult? (6) Do others look to you to make the major decisions for a group or organization?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you see clearly how the Word of God challenges existing values and practices? (2) Do you feel irresistibly compelled to speak into the culture or into people's heart and lives? (3) Do you often know just what passages of Scripture to speak into various situations?

MERCY

Romans 12:8

DEFINED: The capacity to feel and express unusual compassion and sympathy for those in difficult or crisis situations and provide them with the necessary help and support to see them through tough times. These people desire to make a difference in the lives of hurting people without being judgmental.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus taught frequently on mercy (Matt. 5:7, 9:13, 23:23). He is repeatedly described as having compassion and was so filled with mercy that He sometimes wept (John 11:35).

HOSPITALITY

Romans 12:13

DEFINED: The ability to welcome strangers and entertain guests, often in your home, with great joy and kindness so that they become friends. Hospitality is supposed to include one's family (1 Tim. 5:8), friends (Prov. 27:10), Christians (Gal. 6:10), and strangers who may not be Christians (Lev. 19:34).

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Jesus spent time befriending social outcasts, often ate with His disciples, and has welcomed us into His family and eternal hospitality.

TEACHING

Romans 12:7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

DEFINED: The ability to understand and communicate biblical truth in a clear and relevant manner so that there is understanding and application. These people enjoy studying and learning new information and find great joy in sharing it with others.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: Throughout the gospels, Jesus was commonly referred to as *Rabbi*, which means "teacher". Matthew 7:28-29 says that "the crowds were amazed at his teaching because he taught as one who had authority and not as their teachers of the law."

TONGUES/INTERPRETAION

1 Corinthians 12

DEFINED: The ability to speak the gospel to foreigners in their native tongue which the speaker does not know. The ability to speak a message of God in a spoken language unknown to the speaker which must be translated/interpreted.

SEEN IN JESUS' MINISTRY: None

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you find yourself being drawn to people who are needy, hurting, sick, disabled, or elderly? (2) Do you often think of ways to minister to those who are suffering? (3) Do you sense a great deal of compassion for people having personal and emotional problems? (4) Do you find that when you visit those who are suffering it brings you joy rather than depressing you? (5) Do you find yourself responding to people more out of compassion than judgment?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you enjoy having people in your home? (2) Do you enjoy watching people meet and have fun at parties and events you helped to plan and host? (3) Is your home the kind that most people feel comfortable in and drop by to visit unannounced? (4) Do you feel that something is really missing in your life when you cannot have guests into your home? (5) When you think of your home do you view it from the perspective of guests who will visit? (6) Do you consider your home a ministry?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you enjoy studying and researching? (2) Do you enjoy imparting Biblical truth to others? (3) Do others come to you for insight into Scripture? (4) When you teach, do people "get it"? (5) When you see someone confused in their understanding of the Bible do you feel a responsibility to speak to them about it? (6) Do you enjoy speaking to various sizes of groups about Biblical issues you have strong convictions about?

DO YOU HAVE THIS GIFT? (1) Do you speak the gospel in speech unfamiliar to yourself but understood by foreigners. (2) Have you spoken words unfamiliar to yourself that have been understood and interpreted as revelatory by someone with the gift of interpretation?