



SPIRITUAL GIFTS WHY ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS GIVEN? | ROMANS 12:1-8 Pastor Mark Owens

God entrusts all believers with valuable gifts and will one day hold us accountable for how we use them.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. – Romans 12:1-8

but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.
– Romans 12:3b

“Why are we given spiritual gifts?”

Spiritual gifts are given so the church can fulfill the Great Commission.

For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” – Romans 12:4-5

Your spiritual gift is not a gift from God to you; it is a gift from God to His church through you.

A spiritual gift never used is a blessing the church never receives.

- The teacher's gift belongs to the church.
- The servant's gift belongs to the church.
- The giver's resources bless the church.
- The encourager strengthens the church.
- The leader guides the church.
- The merciful comfort the church.

Spiritual gifts are given to show God is actively working in the church

“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them...” – Romans 12:6a



"How has God gifted me to serve His church?"

The purpose of spiritual gifts is to exalt Jesus, not ourselves.

In dying churches, spiritual gifts often remain unused or hidden.

Spiritual gifts are given to reveal God's power in ordinary people.

If prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. – Romans 12:6b-8

Prophecy — Speaking under divine inspiration

Service — Meeting the practical needs of others

Teaching — Helping others understand and apply God's Word

Exhortation — Encouraging, comforting, and counseling others

Generosity — Giving and contributing to the needs of others

Leadership — Leading in the home or in the church

Mercy — Caring for those who are in need or distress