



SPIRITUAL GIFTS

WHEN DO WE RECEIVE SPIRITUAL GIFTS? | 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1–11

Pastor Mark Owens

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

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. – 1 Corinthians 12:1–11

When do I receive spiritual gifts?

When God calls us, and we accept His free gift of salvation.

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The moment a sinner repents and trusts Christ...

- The Holy Spirit indwells them.
- They become a new creation.
- They become part of Christ's body.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. – Romans 8:9

In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. – Ephesians 1:13

When do I receive spiritual gifts?

When the Triune God equips us.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.” – 1 Corinthians 12:4–6



Trinitarian structure:

- The same Spirit (Holy Spirit) – v. 4
- The same Lord (Jesus Christ) – v. 5
- The same God (God the Father) – v. 6

The Holy Spirit distributes the gifts.

All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.
– 1 Corinthians 12:11

Jesus is the head of the Church.

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. – Ephesians 1:22–23

And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. – Colossians 1:18

The Father empowers the ministry.

and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.
– 1 Corinthians 12:6

When do I receive spiritual gifts?

When they are needed and at the right time.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.⁸ For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. – 1 Corinthians 12:7–10

Wisdom — Applying God's truth to life's situations with godly insight and direction.

Knowledge — Understanding and communicating God's truth for the benefit of others.

Faith — Trusting God with extraordinary confidence in difficult or impossible situations.

Healing — Being used by God to bring physical, emotional, or spiritual healing according to His will.

Miracles — Performing extraordinary works of God that reveal His power and bring Him glory.

Prophecy — Proclaiming God's truth to strengthen, encourage, and challenge His people.



Discernment — Recognizing whether a spiritual message, teaching, or influence is from God, human sources, or demonic forces, so the church is protected and the truth is upheld.

Tongues — Speaking in an unlearned language for God's purposes and the edification of the church when interpreted.

Interpretation of Tongues — Understanding and communicating the meaning of a message spoken in tongues so the church is encouraged.

“If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret.”²⁸ But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.” –
1 Corinthians 14:27–28

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