

Application of Gifts Definitions

Prophecy - As used today, the word *prophecy* usually refers to predicting the future.

However, the biblical use of the word more often speaks to the present as well as the future. Those who have the gift of prophecy speak about God's purpose in concrete situations facing the church.

Pastor - A person who is like a shepherd to others. This includes feeding them the Word, comforting in times of crisis, developing unity, doing what is necessary to see the people growing in their faith and spiritual lives.

Teaching - Can be used in a variety of ministries, including: Sunday School, leading a Bible study, preaching, sharing the Gospel one-on-one.

Wisdom - People with this gift can get to the heart of an issue quickly. They have practical minds and are problem solvers. They have little difficulty making decisions because they can see with a fairly high degree of accuracy what the outcome of a decision will be.

Knowledge - Those with the gift of knowledge are often among the first to discover a new truth and to originate new ideas. They are eager to learn and have the ability to retain large amounts of information.

Exhortation - often called the gift of encouragement. Those who have this gift are concerned with the spiritual welfare of a fellow Christian for a period of time that it takes to help that person.

Discernment - This is the ability to know whether or not claims by others about their behaviour, beliefs, or motives are truly biblically based or from selfish or even satanic motives.

Giving - Those with this gift are able to give much more than normal of their various resources, financial or other wise.

Helps - Invariably this gift is a one-on-one ministry, helping other Christians in the congregation in the use of their own spiritual gifts to be more effective.

Mercy - The recipients of this gift are those who are in ill health, disabled, blind, poor, aged, shut-ins, homeless, prisoners, and mentally challenged.

Missionary - Those with the gift of missionary enjoy reaching out to those in different cultures, at home or in different countries. They will make an effort to learn the language of the culture they are going to, and are willing to live in a different culture for the time of their service.

Evangelist - This gift is especially important for conversion growth, and only marginally necessary for biological growth or transfer growth. It is exercised in all places of the world, at home and abroad.

Hospitality - Those with this gift do not shy away from inviting others into their homes, The word 'hospitality ' originally meant 'love of strangers.' People with this gift have the skills to offer warm hospitality, and love to do it.

Faith - People with this gift tend to be more interested in the future rather than in history. They are goal-oriented, possibility thinkers, and often undaunted by circumstances, obstacles, or suffering. They trust God to move mountains for the sake of improved and growth ministry.

Leadership - Leaders will have followers but will never get too far ahead of their followers. Gifted leaders do not manipulate or coerce. They generate confidence that they know where God is leading them what the next steps are

Administration - Those with this gift can make the church organization impelling and inspiring. They enjoy leading in the administrative issues of the church, overseeing business matters, relating to staff, overseeing or running the church office, making phone calls, answering emails etc. and taking satisfaction in the well-running of their church organization.

Miracles - A times God will decide to work a miracle through a believer, as with Noah and others in the Old Testament. In John 14:12 Jesus says: "Truly, truly, I tell you, whoever believes in Me will also do the works that I am doing. He will do even greater things than these..." suggests that the work of miraculous intervention is not confined to the first century. In Acts 6:8 Stephen is recorded as "performing amazing miracles and signs among the people."

Healing - This gift can be understood as a specialized form of the gift of miracles. The gift of healing does not give a person supernatural power over disease and illness. such a person is simply an instrument through whom God works when He desires to heal a person or people.

Tongues - The personal/private gift of tongues is often referred to as a prayer language and provides the opportunity for the person involved to communicate with God at a deeper, spiritual level than normal. Regards the public speaking of tongues, the Apostle Paul states, in 1 Corinthians 14:26-28 that speaking in tongues in a worship service should be limited to 3 people at most and the tongues message/s must have an interpreter, otherwise they must keep silent and use the gift privately.

Interpretation of Tongues - Without this gift, the use of tongues is not permitted in the church - see the full explanation in 1 Corinthians 14:1-33

Intercession - People with this gift tend to pray longer than most, an hour or more at a time. They pray with more intensity; enjoy prayer more and gain much personal satisfaction. They see more frequent and even dramatic answers to their prayers.

Service - This gift is more task-oriented. The service offered is more often directed to the church itself and its goals, rather than to a particular person - although people will naturally benefit as a result of this gift. Such people often have a wide range of abilities to offer and can be counted upon as various needs arise.
