

I. Introduction: Paul provided a list of the spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit distributes to the church. They describe how the church is to be built up through these gifts.

A. Spiritual gifts are God-given abilities that are entrusted to Christians, which the Spirit dispenses to win unbelievers to Jesus and to build up believers in the church.

II. The Description of Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor 12:8-11).

A. The Word of Wisdom (v. 8).

B. The Word of Knowledge (v. 8).

C. The Gift of Faith (v. 9).

D. The Gifts of Healing (v. 9).

E. The Effecting of Miracles (v. 10).

III. Conclusion: Paul taught the Corinthians that spiritual gifts were given to believers by the Holy Spirit, and he described some of these gifts that God had given to His people.

Questions About: Describing Spiritual Gifts

1. What are the spiritual gifts that Paul mentions? (**1 Cor 12:8-11**) What is the purpose of the gifts? (**v. 7**) Should we seek certain gifts? Do all the gifts still apply today? Why or why not?
2. What are some reasons that certain gifts may have ceased? (**1 Cor 13:8-10**) Do we see sign gifts used today? Why did Jesus display miraculous gifts? (**John 5:36; 20:30-31; Acts 2:22**)
3. What is the “word of wisdom”? (**v. 8**) How does the Bible encourage us to seek wisdom? (**Prov 11:14; 12:15; 13:10; 15:22; 19:20; 27:9**) To whom do you go to seek wise counsel?
4. What is the “word of knowledge”? (**v. 8**) How did Paul indicate it was a speaking gift? How are pastors and preachers encouraged to use it? (**2 Tim 2:15**) Do you possess this gift?
5. What is the gift of faith? (**v. 9**) Who in the Bible exhibited extraordinary faith? (**Heb 11:7-40; Luke 7:1-10**) How did Jesus explain the gift of faith? (**Matt 17:20**) Do you have faith?
6. What are the gifts of healing? (**v. 9**) How did Jesus use this gift? (**Matt 8:5-8; Mark 5:25-35; Luke 4:38-40**) How did the Apostles use it? (**Acts 5:12; 9:32-35; 28:7-8**) Is it active today?
7. What is the “effecting of miracles”? (**v. 10**) What is a miracle? What did God say was the purpose of miracles? (**John 5:36; 20:30-31**) Why are miracles not needed today?
8. Do you think that the sign gifts are for today? Why or why not? Have you ever seen someone perform a miracle? Heal a person? How are some of these gifts counterfeited today?

Prayer

1. Ask God to show you what spiritual gifts He has given to you through the Holy Spirit.
2. Ask God to help you use them to serve the church with your own unique blend of gifts.