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# Encounter(ing) God

## Holy Spirit      Part 8

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## Review

**Pastor Rob** — What is your mission, abandon consumerism and embrace “contributionism”. Church suffers when you’re inactive. Character matters. Motives are important.

**Today** — Five categories of spiritual gifts, some crossover exists, good lists

- a) Serving Gifts
- b) Salvation Gifts
- c) Spiritual Insight Gifts
- d) Strengthening Gifts
- e) Shepherding Gifts

**Beloved** — **spiritual gifts are profoundly important in the life of every believer...**

- a) Help us overcome the limitations of the flesh — what we can do on our own!
- b) Help us expand the Kingdom of God!
- c) Help the Body of Christ fulfill its destiny!

- **Romans 12:6**

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them:

- you have some, Discover, Develop, Deploy, USE THEM!

**SERVING GIFTS —**  
***sometimes mistakenly looked at as least spiritual —***  
***yet produce results.***  
***Never underestimate the importance of any of the gifts.***  
***Spirit doesn't give unimportant gifts.***

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## Artistry / Craftsmanship

*Using your creative and artistic thoughts and skills to reveal the glory and beauty of God. God's instructions to Moses to make everything for Tabernacle.*

- **Exodus 28:2-3**

And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. So, you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.

**Gifted artisans are called to do things for the glory of God  
that reveal the beauty of God.  
All manner of art, paintings, drawings, songs,  
poems, sculptures, structures etc.**

## Artists have place of honor in scripture

- **Exodus 31:3-5**

And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.

- the FIRST person mentioned in scripture being “filled with the Spirit” is an artist! Without spirit-filled artists doing their thing, the world misses out on the beauty of God!

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## Giving

- Using God-given resources with exceptional willingness, generosity and cheerfulness to meet needs and bless people for the glory of God.
- *everyone is called to give, this is gift of giving*
- **Romans 12:6-8**  
Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them... he who gives, with liberality;
- John Ring — first giver to church, didn't come here, barley knew him. Over the years, God knows everything he did. He gave with liberality. So many others since then.

**Without givers giving with liberality,  
the work of the church is seriously stunted.  
Givers may not have any other gift, but their liberal giving  
gives opportunity and expression for the  
gifts of others to be mobilized.**

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## Ministry

- Using the gift of ministry to selflessly and joyfully serve peoples spiritual, physical and emotional needs.
- *everyone is called to minister and serve others, this is gift of ministry*
- **Romans 12:7**  
... or ministry, let us use it in our ministering;
- may or not be upfront, public, etc., behind the scenes, strengthening infrastructure and details to make the whole Kingdom work. They seem to be happily involved in everything! What can I do? It doesn't matter... total opposite of consumerism. They get “I didn't come to be served, but to serve and lay my life down for others.”

**When ministry gifts aren't used, the strength and integrity of the church as a mission organization is seriously compromised. We cannot do and we cannot reach everyone we are called to without the working backbone of the church functioning.**

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## **Helps**

- Using your resources to joyfully help others by relieving them and enabling them to accomplish a task with a decreased burden.
- **1 Corinthians 12:28**  
And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.
- much like ministry but more personal and less corporate in nature.

***Listen*** — *you may not create art, you may not give a fortune, you may not be serving in some spotlight — but the widow who needs her grass cut, and the single mom who needs help moving, or the homeless guy who needs a hand — they go unreached and untouched without the helps gifting stepping up and meeting a need!*

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## **Hospitality**

- Using the gifts and graces of food, fellowship, and lodging in a warm and welcoming way to guests in your home and various other places.
- **1 Peter 4:9-10**  
Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

**It is a wonderful thing to be invited to the table and home of someone who has the gift of hospitality.  
You know you matter, are loved, and cared for.  
The atmosphere, the meal, the attitude of the host, it's all incredible.  
When you leave them, you are refreshed, blessed, encouraged, etc.**

***Again*** — *you may not create art, you may not give a fortune, you may not be serving in some spotlight; helping in a very specific, spontaneous way, may not be your strength... but thoughtfully planning, preparing and providing an atmosphere of peace and provision for a guest to be refreshed and blessed, now that's your thing!*

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## **Close**

***Closing question*** — *What is the most important and valuable spiritual gift?*

***Answer*** — **The one that is most needed in any given situation!**

**Listen** — the person on the side of the road with a flat doesn't care if you speak in tongues, they need a ride. Therefore, every gift is the most valuable gift at some time, in some situation. Don't ever devalue or minimize your gift, if you do, a need is unmet, people go untouched, and the Kingdom loses an opportunity to be expressed.

### **Romans 12:6**

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them!

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## **Discussion Questions**

1. Why are spiritual gifts so important in the life of every believer?
2. Do you have the gift of artistry or craftsmanship, or do you know someone who does?  
How has that gift been used to glorify God?
3. What is the difference between the gift of ministry and the gift of helps?
4. Do you know someone with the gift of hospitality? How does it make you feel when you are invited to their home?
5. What is the most important and valuable spiritual gift?

# NOTES