

EXERCISING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

(Romans 12:6-8)

VII. GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED THRU THE CHURCH (12:1-16:23)

A. SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND THE LOCAL CHURCH

1. The spiritual gifting by the Holy Spirit is that which _____ and _____ the local church. (I Cor. 12:7; 14:5, 26)
2. Spiritual gifts are part of God's grace provision for _____ and _____ in the local church. (Eph. 4:11-13)
3. Spiritual gifts can be viewed as the Chief Shepherd's _____ for His local flock, which by necessity, must be led by _____, _____ human beings. (Eph. 4:14-15)

B. SPECIFIC GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

1. "*Having then gifts differing*" calls attention to the _____ of gifts; all of them are given at the same _____ and empowered by the same _____. (v. 6a, cf. 1 Cor. 12:4, 13)
2. Believers _____ pick and choose which gifts they want, because the _____ of God is the One who sovereignly _____ who will receive what gift "*according to the grace given to us.*" (v. 6b, cf. 1 Cor. 12:11)

3. Paul is not asking you to specifically _____ your gift(s), but rather that you would actually “_____” (v. 6c), so that “*the church may receive edification*” (1 Cor. 12:7; 14:5; 1 Pet. 4:10a).
4. The apostle gives us a partial list (7 of the 20) gifts mentioned elsewhere in Ephesians 4, 1 Corinthians 12, and 1 Peter 4.
- “*prophecy*” is the God-given ability to _____ and _____ divine revelation. (v. 6d)
 - “*ministry*” is the special ability to _____ and _____ others when the need arises. (v. 7a)
 - “*teaching*” is the divinely-given ability to clearly _____ the Word of God. (v. 7b)
 - “*exhortation*” is the Spirit-given ability to _____ or even _____ others to pursue some proper course of spiritual conduct. (v. 8a)
 - “*giving*” is the God-given ability to use what _____ you have been blessed with in generously (“*liberally*”) _____ to the Lord’s work. (v. 8b)
 - “*leading*” is the divinely-given ability to wisely and _____ function in _____ capacities. (v. 8c)
 - “*showing mercy*” is the Spirit-given ability to wisely act with _____ and _____ towards others in order to bring them comfort. (v. 8d)

* Are you willing to allow the Lord to use you and your gift for His glory?