

The Year of Sowing

Prayer Guide

Week 42

The Year of Sowing – The Gifts of the Spirit – How They Operate

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)



Prayer Focus: The gifts of the Spirit are a wonder of the grace of God poured out upon His Church, the Body of Christ. Every believer has gifts that God desires be used to serve others. Not for personal gain or self-promotion. And in 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6, Paul describes for us the various functions of the gifts. First, there is a variety of different gifts that God has given. The word in the greek is “charisma” from which we get the word grace. They are grace gifts. *Chárisma* is the instantaneous enablement of the Holy Spirit in the life of any believer to exercise a gift for the edification of others. God is able to give whatever gift is necessary at that point in time to accomplish His purposes through the believer. This is another reason for us to walk daily in intimate communion with God. Secondly, Paul says there are different administrations of the gifts. The word in the greek here is “*diakonía*.” The same word used for a deacon. Here, *diakonía* is an office or ministration in the Body of Christ meaning the labor needed for serving others. There are differences in the labor used with each of the gifts. Once again, this is not a place of comparison because each gift is a gift of grace from God to be used to serve others. Thirdly, Paul says there are differences in operations of the gifts. The word in the greek here is “*enérgeō*” from which we get the word energy. The meaning here is the energy of God that works through each believer to enable the use of the gift God has given. It is to be God’s energy working through each believer. The gifts of the Spirit are God’s gifts of His grace to be ministered by His power for the building up and serving of others. God has graciously given us the gifts. Are we using what He has given to us with His energy to serve others?

- Day 1:** Spend time today studying the passages on the gifts: 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, and Romans 12.
- Day 2:** Today, worship the Lord for the grace He has given to you for the use of your gifts of the Spirit.
- Day 3:** Ask the Lord to give you insight into the uses and functions of the gifts of the Spirit and how this can affect your life.
- Day 4:** Pray that the Lord will teach you how to walk in the use of the gifts He gives you for serving others.
- Day 5:** Pray that your church would learn to be operating in the gifts of the Spirit in true unity.
- Day 6:** Intercede for believers in other church in your city, that they will be using their gifts to server others in His power and grace.
- Day 7:** Pray today for the missionaries from your church to be energized by the Spirit in the use of their gifts.