

# Spiritual Gifts Summary

*"So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts."* 1 Corinthians 12:31 NLT

Spiritual gifts can be defined as: **Special abilities given by the Holy Spirit at the time of salvation for Christian service & ministry.**

## A. Positional Office Gifts—Ephesians 4:11

<p>1. <b>APOSTLE (of Jesus Christ)—Eph. 4:11; 2:20; 1 Cor. 12:28</b> <i>Men personally chosen and sent by Jesus Christ to be His authoritative representative before the world.</i></p> <p>2. <b>PROPHET—Eph. 4:11; 2:20; 1 Cor. 12:28</b> <i>Men called and sent by God to receive revelations from God and then stand before people and proclaim His message of repentance, forgiveness, grace &amp; holiness.</i></p>	<b>Ended with the First Century</b>
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3. **EVANGELIST—Eph. 4:11**  
*Men called and sent by God to effectively communicate the message of salvation in Jesus Christ to those who have not experienced the new birth.*
4. **PASTOR (Shepherd)—TEACHER—Eph. 4:11**  
*Men called by God to spiritually watch over others and provide care, protection, nurture and biblical teaching for their spiritual growth and equipping for ministry.*

## B. Ministry Serving Gifts—1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28; Rom. 12:6-8

1. **ADMINISTRATION** (1 Cor. 12:28)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to organize, direct, and manage ministries and causes.*
2. **APOSTLES (of the Churches):** Missionaries/Church Planters (2 Cor. 8:23)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to represent Christianity in the establishment of new local churches in unreached communities or cultures.*
3. **DISCERNMENT** (1 Cor. 12:10)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to distinguish between truth and error and to detect if something is of satanic, human, or divine origin.*
4. **FAITH** (1 Cor. 12:9)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to envision what God wants to do and to trust God for its completion, especially during difficult or challenging circumstances.*
5. **GIVING/Contributing** (Rom. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to contribute financially or materially to the needs of others and the work of the Lord.*
6. **HELPS/Serving** (Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to give practical assistance to others.*
7. **HOSPITALITY** (1 Pet. 4:9-10)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to cheerfully make others feel accepted, welcomed, valued, and loved.*
8. **LEADERSHIP** (Rom. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to cast a vision of God-honoring objectives and to inspire, motivate, and guide others to accomplish these objectives.*
9. **MERCY** (Rom. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to give people relief from the misery of their problems, pain, or predicaments through deeds that reflect the love of Christ.*
10. **SHEPHERDING/Pastoring** (Eph. 4:12)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to spiritually watch over others by providing care, protection, and nurture for their spiritual growth.*

### **C. Message Speaking Gifts—1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28; Rom. 12:6-8**

1. **EXHORTATION/Encouragement** (Rom. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to affirm, reassure, or strengthen those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith and the ability to advise, correct & motivate those who need to take the right action.*
2. **EVANGELISM** (Eph. 4:11)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to effectively explain and communicate the message of salvation in Jesus Christ to those who have not experienced the new birth.*
3. **PROPHECY** (Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:10)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to stand before others and proclaim God's Word with particular emphasis on repentance, forgiveness, grace, and holiness.*
4. **TEACHING** (Rom. 12:7; 1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:12)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to communicate Biblical truth in an understandable way so that people learn and apply it to their lives, resulting in spiritual growth and eventual Christ-like maturity.*
5. **A Message of WISDOM** (1 Cor. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to communicate and apply Biblical truth and insights to life's problems, decisions, and situations.*
6. **A Message of KNOWLEDGE** (1 Cor. 12:8)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to accumulate, analyze, and systematize Biblical truth and communicate it to others in a structured and logical format.*

### **D. Miraculous Sign Gifts—Mark 16:17-20; Heb. 2:3-4; 1 Cor. 14:22**

The purpose of the miraculous sign gifts was to be a “sign” to “confirm” the gospel message as the Word of God. Some believe these gifts have ceased with the passing of the Apostles & the completion of the canon of scripture. This is mainly thought of because of the Early Church Fathers' testimony (the disciples of the Apostles, etc.) to their ceasing. Others believe they ceased after the first century but have re-appeared at the beginning of the 20th century. If these gifts still exist today, detecting them in a person's life will not be difficult. They will have high visibility.

1. **HEALINGS** (Mark 16:18; 1 Cor. 12:9, 28)—*The Special ability given by the Holy Spirit to be a channel of God's power in restoring people to health.*
2. **MIRACLES** (Mark 16:17-18; 1 Cor. 12:10, 28)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to be a channel of God's power in performing acts that overrule the normal laws of nature.*
3. **TONGUES** (Mark 16:17; 1 Cor. 12:10, 28; 1 Cor. 14)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to speak in a language normally unknown to the speaker.*
4. **INTERPRETATION** (1 Cor. 12:10)—*The special ability given by the Holy Spirit to understand a language normally unknown to one with the gift and the ability to translate from that language to another language.*