



for Individuals and Groups

based on

Church in the City | Chapter 12 A Giver of Gifts

> Pastor Brady Boyd October 27, 2024

Day 1: Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Devotional Spiritual gifts are special abilities given to us by the Holy Spirit, as described in 1 Corinthians 12. These gifts are not for our personal glorification but to glorify Jesus and strengthen others. When we use our gifts, we should always aim to point to Jesus and build up those around us. This week, let's focus on identifying the gifts the Holy Spirit has given us and on how we can use them to serve others and glorify God.

Bible Verse "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." –1 Corinthians 12:7

Reflection Question What spiritual gifts do you believe the Holy Spirit has given you, and how can you use them to glorify Jesus and strengthen others?

Point to Ponder The definition of a spiritual gift is that the Holy Spirit at work in our lives in a particular way that blesses or fortifies others.

Prayer "Lord, help me to recognize the specific spiritual gifts you have given me. Am I good at speaking an encouraging word? Or at teaching others how to follow you? Or at praying for others' needs? Guide me in using these gifts to glorify you and strengthen the people in my life and in my church. Amen."

Day 2: The Gift of Wisdom

Devotional In today's world, where misinformation is rampant, the gift of wisdom is more crucial than ever. Because wisdom helps us discern the truth and make decisions that honor God, we should seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in developing and using this gift to navigate life's challenges and support others in their journey.

Bible Verse "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." –Luke 2:52

Reflection Question How can you seek and apply the gift of wisdom *today* to make decisions that acknowledge, glorify, and honor God?

Point to Ponder The gift of wisdom is the special ability offered by the Holy Spirit that allows us to think rightly about our own lives and to give insightful counsel to others.

Prayer "Father, I need this gift of wisdom! Help me not only to discern the truth and make decisions that honor you but also to provide wise counsel to the people around me. Amen."

Day 3: The Gift of Knowledge

Devotional The gift of knowledge offers critical insight into people and situations, helping us discern the truth. This gift allows us to understand deeper truths and apply them in our lives and the lives of others. By seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance, we can develop this gift and use it to navigate complex situations and support those around us.

Bible Verse "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth." –John 16:13

Reflection Question In what areas of your life do you need the gift of *knowledge* to discern the truth and make informed decisions?

Point to Ponder Lies will always bind you, but the truth will always set you free.

Prayer "Father, guide me into all truth. Grant me the gift of knowledge to understand deeper truths and to apply them in my life every day. Help me to use the gift of knowledge to help others discern truth too. Amen."

Day 4: Surrounding Yourself with Wise Counsel

Devotional We need spiritual moms and dads in the church who can keep reminding us how to wholeheartedly follow Jesus. Surrounding ourselves with wise counsel helps us grow in our faith and make better decisions. Find wise people who have figured a few things out and sit among them, knowing that their guidance and experience can help you navigate life's challenges and grow in your spiritual journey.

Bible Verse "Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'" –John 4:13-14

Reflection Question Which wise people in your life do you can seek counsel from on a regular basis, and how can their guidance help you grow in your faith?

Point to Ponder When you find a person who has figured a few things out about living fully devoted to Jesus, sit with him or her. Ask good questions. Listen carefully. Your life will quickly change.

Prayer "Lord, help me to find people who can guide me in my spiritual journey. Thank you for the spiritual moms and dads in our church who help us grow in our faith. Amen."

Day 5: Making Decisions that Honor God

Devotional In a world where everyone is telling you that everything is true, it's essential to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance before making decisions. Don't make a decision until the Spirit speaks to you. By doing so, you ensure that your choices honor God and align with his will. Trust in the Lord's guidance and knowledge about every aspect of your life.

Bible Verse "But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come." –John 16:13

Reflection Question How will you ensure that your decisions this week will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that they will align with God's will?

Point to Ponder Your best decisions will always be the ones guided by divine direction from the Holy Spirit.

Prayer "Father, help me to seek your guidance before making decisions. Let your Spirit speak to me and guide me in making choices that honor you. Amen."