

# **The Holy Spirit, the Giver of Gifts**

*Charles Stanley*

## I. Introduction.

- A. All of us who have the Holy Spirit have a helper within us. (John 14-16)
- B. The Spirit equips us with gifts.
- C. Text: I Corinthians 12.

II. A gift of the Spirit is given to every believer for salvation, but the gifts of the Spirit are given to every believer as special manifestations of power to fulfill the tasks of ministry.

- A. The Spirit distributes the gifts as He pleases.
- B. The gifts are manifestations of God's grace. (Ephesians 4, Romans 12)
- C. The gifts are various.
  - 1. All have a motivational gift.
  - 2. It is up to the Spirit to decide what gift a believer gets.
  - 3. God adds to natural talents and abilities a motivational gift.
  - 4. If one speaks in tongues, he must make sure that his experience matches what the Word of God says.
  - 5. One should not expect everyone to have any single gift. We should not try to put God in a box.

III. We often major on the dramatic gifts instead of gifts of teaching and serving. This gets things out of balance. It is a sin to usurp the power of God and tell people which gift they should have.

IV. Every person has a gift. (I Peter 4:10)

V. Reasons God has equipped believers with spiritual gifts.

- A. For the common good.
- B. To help one another. (Ephesians 4)
- C. For the training of the church for the maturation of the church. (Ephesians 2:8-9)
  - 1. God equips a person in the church so that he can go out and do the work of the church.
  - 2. Believers are God's workmanship created to do good works.

3. Every aspect of our life is affected by our skills and abilities.

4. We should want our life to really count.

VI. God built the body in such a way that every single member is important.

A. God has not called a person to do anything for which He has not gifted him.

B. God has not called a person to do anything for which He will not assume responsibility.  
(II Corinthians 5:10)

C. Each person will give an account for what he has been given responsibility for on this earth.  
God is not just interested in saving hides—He is interested in saving souls. (I Corinthians 3,  
I Corinthians 12, 14:4)

**Application questions:**

1. What is the purpose for the gifts of the Spirit?

---

---

2. Why is it important to know that God equips those He calls for service?

---

---

3. How would you respond to someone who says that their gift gives them a special place in the church? Explain.

---

---