

Bay City Wesleyan Church
January 28, 2018

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Spiritual Gifts
Sunday Morning Worship- Sermon
<http://bible.com/events/350472>
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As we continue to remain in Jesus, let us remember our promise for 2018: we will bear much fruit. I hope we have been reading John 15 and praying our prayer for fruit. May we be blessed today as we continue the conversation on growth and being empowered by the Holy Spirit.

What do I now that I am a Christian? I have gifts? What are spiritual gifts? Who has them? Who gives them? What kinds are there? What are their purposes?
These questions should be answered today, and I pray you are inspired to dig deeper into answering these questions for yourself.

[Plan]
Spiritual Growth And Responsibility
5 Days
<http://bible.com/r/rJ>

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 NLT

Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. You know that when you were still pagans, you were led astray and swept along in worshipping speechless idols. So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice ; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.
<https://bible.com/bible/116/1co.12.1-11.NLT>

We must use our gifts as God directed and the Holy Spirit empowers. Our goal is to not glorify ourselves or our accomplishments, but to glorify the God who gives us each different spiritual gifts to work with the Holy Spirit and grow His church.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27 NLT

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/1co.12.12-27.NLT>

Although we are all different parts of the body, together just as the human body's systems work together to keep us alive. Just as our bodies grow and change, and we must also be willing to grow and change as the Spirit moves in and around us.

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 NLT

Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers, then those who do miracles, those who have the gift of healing, those who can help others, those who have the gift of leadership, those who speak in unknown languages. Are we all apostles? Are we all prophets? Are we all teachers? Do we all have the power to do miracles? Do we all have the gift of healing? Do we all have the ability to speak in unknown languages? Do we all have the ability to interpret unknown languages? Of course not! So you should earnestly desire the most helpful gifts. But now let me show you a way of life that is best of all.

<https://bible.com/bible/116/1co.12.28-31.NLT>

The spiritual gifts listed here are not an exhaustive list of all possible gifts. Since the beginning of the Church, the Holy Spirit has poured into believers, giving us gifts for each time, place, and people. We keep growing in our abilities and understandings of God and His desires for the Church. New revelations have not stopped in our time. He is still speaking to us today.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 NLT

If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I had

the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing.
<https://bible.com/bible/116/1co.13.1-3>.NLT

If we do not love, then we are not using our gifts as God intended. Instead, we are wasting our time, energy, talents, and resources. We will burn ourselves out working for the church. We will damage our relationships with others. We will hinder the growth of the church. We will turn away those who would have been drawn into the love of the church. We must love because God first has loved us. We must love our neighbor as ourselves.

Ephesians 4:12 NLT

Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.
<https://bible.com/bible/116/eph.4.12>.NLT

1 Peter 4:10 NLT

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.
<https://bible.com/bible/116/1pe.4.10>.NLT

2 Timothy 1:6-7 NLT

This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
<https://bible.com/bible/116/2ti.1.6-7>.NLT

Sermon in a Sentence:

Spiritual gifts are given to glorify God, edify the Church, and to seek and save the lost.

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

After today's service, you can either follow the link in the event to the spiritual gifts assessment, or you can take a printout with you to fill out. Please return them to the box in the foyer within the next couple of weeks. The Next Level Team will take a look at the spiritual gifts of our church body, so we can know how to pray and the direction God is taking Bay City Wesleyan. Thank you for your participation! You are extremely valuable and necessary for the life of the church.

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_MYCS_030526_Spiritual_Gifts_Survey.pdf