

God's Gifts

The Purpose of God's Gifts

The purpose of the gifts provided us by our Father, the Son and Holy Spirit is to use them to Glorify God in everything we do and everything we are. We are to become examples of our loving God. In short, we have been given gifts so that we may use them for the purpose of becoming like the giver of gifts.

"For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable."

Romans 11:29

The Plan for the Use of God's Gifts in Our Lives

Everyone member of the body of Christ has a specific task to perform in order to have the body function properly. Like our natural bodies, some functions have greater responsibility, some with less critical roles, but no matter how small, every member is necessary for the body of Christ to function in God's divine order.

"From him (Christ) the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

Ephesians 4:16

One of life's greatest challenges is to recognize your gift(s) and calling, then begin to act upon God's plan for your life. As you study the various gifts and how you are created in His image and likeness, you will discover the various gifts God has graciously imparted to you and just how you fit in the body of Christ. You will also discover the ministry and people you are called to as a gift of God. ***"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."***

Jeremiah 29:11

General Plan For Use of Our Gifts in Life

God's most general purpose for the all individuals in the corporate body of Christ is to glorify God by becoming Christ like. ***"Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."***

1 Peter 2:12

We are to use our God given gifts to promote our faith, not just in word but in deed. Believing what God has spoken and knowing your position as a child in the family of God leads us to doing good deeds. ***"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead"***

James 2:17

Through the inspiration of God's love shown in our salvation through the shedding of blood for our sins, we are inspired by grace knowing God's nature is love.

"God is Love"

1 John 4:8

His love, his giving of eternal life, his giving of good gifts inspires us to fulfill his most basic plan to become Christ like, that is by obeying his Word. ***"I ask that we love one another. And this is love; that we walk in obedience to his commands."***

2 John 1:5-6

THE FATHER

Gift of our Creation: Human Traits

James 1:17 says, *Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.* The Father of lights gives us GIFTS THROUGH CREATION; that is, personal gifts such as natural God given skills and talents: Your Assets or Strengths are unique and play an important part in God's plans to accomplish His plan for humanity. God's given, gifts are varied and sundry for the benefit of the whole of society. Gifts in the arts, in science, athletic, verbal, social skills, sales, trades, etc. It is almost like we are pieces in a puzzle that all fit together one way to complete the picture; that is God's plan.

God's gift of His Son, Jesus

Jesus brings us eternal **SALVATION**—*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

John 3:16. in the Greek, the word for salvation is **sozo**. Sozo also denotes victory in this lifetime with provision, protection, prosperity, and peace. Now provided with grace, unmerited favor, believers are now redeemed from the Law which brought death.

GRACE AND TRUTH is our mission on earth with victory over sin. See the Quick Note on Salvation.

God's gift of the Word

By knowing Jesus we know God's Word, and through His Word we live a life of true success Joshua 1:8. In John 1: 14 **And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.** See the Quick Note on the Bible.

THE SON

The Seven Motive Gifts (personality traits) of Jesus Romans 12:6-8

Everyone has a special gift... *“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others faithfully administering God's grace in various forms.”*

“And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given us, let each exercise them accordingly.”

(He whose gift is) **PROPHECY**, (let him prophesy) according to the proportion of his faith;

(he whose gift is) practical service, let him give himself to **SERVING**;

he who teaches, to his **TEACHING**;

(he who exhorts, encourages); to his **EXHORTATION**;

he who contributes (**GIVING**), let him do it in simplicity and liberality;

he who gives aid and superintends, (**ORGANIZATION**) with zeal and singleness of mind;

he who does acts of **MERCY**, with genuine cheerfulness and joyful eagerness.”

Seven Character Attributes of Jesus

VISION Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

DECISION Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted

DISCIPLINE Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth

DESIRE Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

COMPASSION Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy

COMMITMENT Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

COURAGE Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God

Matthew 5: 4-9

For details on these character attributes visit [The Articles of Transformation](#).

The Five Calling of Christ

Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers,

Eph 4:11-13

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

In Christian theology, baptism of the Holy Spirit has been interpreted differently by Christian denominations. Some believe the baptisms occur at the same time and are one. But scripture documents the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Water Baptism are two distinct and separate encounters.

The Born Again Experience

In John 20:22, Jesus said **receive ye the Holy Spirit**. What does *“receive the Holy Spirit”* actually mean to believers? In Greek, Holy Spirit is “pneuma hagion” literally meaning “holy breath”: the breath of God... the breath of life! Just as God breathed into Adam the breath of life (Genesis 2:7) and man became a living soul, the Holy Spirit entering man is the life giving gift of the *“born again”* experience, meaning your spirit is given eternal life in the family of God.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit Experience

As we can see the difference of the same disciples receiving the Holy Spirit **“in them”**, (John 20:22), and later the **same disciples** receiving power when the Holy Spirit **“came on them”**, (Acts 1:8) *He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”* It is easy to see they are two separate Holy Spirit encounters.

The Result of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

As Jesus promised In Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost the disciples and others were baptized in the Holy Spirit: *All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.* How many Christians do you know who when born again began to speak in tongues? The Baptism of the Holy Spirit provides gifts that empower us to be bold, and act according to the will, knowledge, and power of God.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

 Corinthians 12:4-11

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of **wisdom**, and
2. to another the utterance of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit,
3. to another **faith** by the same Spirit,
4. to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit,
5. to another the working of **miracles**,
6. to another **prophecy**,
7. to another the **discernment of spirits**,
8. to another various kinds of **tongues**,
9. to another the **interpretation of tongues**.

The first 3 gifts are for us to KNOW, the next 3 are to DO, and the last 3 to SPEAK.

How to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

 Luke 11: 9-13

Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ASK him!” Notice you are to ask. These are born again Christians. The *lost* do not ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit but they repent and ask for Jesus to save them from their sins.

Pray and **ASK! and receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.** Luke 11: 9-13

Fruit of the Holy Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
Galatians 5:22

Begin to List the Gifts God Has Given to You

What physical and mental attributes, talents or skills have you been gifted with?

What is Gods Plan for Your Life?

Are You Born Again?

When did You ask to be baptized in the Holy Spirit?

What gifts of the Holy Spirit have you exercised?

What calling is on your life: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers?

What motive gift do you recognize that works in your life?

What character attributes of Jesus are strong in your life?

Begin to think about and recognize these gifts as you mature as a Christian.



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