God's Gifts



What are the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit and where to find them in the Bible

by Ladey Adey

Waiting for the Word (Flkr Creative Commons)

Dedication

To God, the praise and glory of this spiritual gifts adventure.

My wonderful husband, Denis Peter Adey for continued love, friendship and support. Denis is one of God's gifts to me and others.

Sue and Ted Banks - Home Group Leaders, New Life Church, Sleaford

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Disclaimer

Disclaimer and a Warning

- The main source is of course The Bible, I have read various versions and I have read other peoples material on the subject in order to give my interpretation and commentary on God's Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Any errors or omissions are my own it is the beginnings of learning adventures with God.
- I do not hold a theological degree or have a Bible college education from which to speak authoritatively on this topic. I speak from the love of God and Jesus whilst allowing the Holy Spirit to talk to me and direct my thoughts, understanding and discovery.

This book is intended to increase general awareness, educate, and to encourage others to understand, discover, receive and develop spiritual gifts.

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Introduction

What sparked my interest in God's Gifts? The spiritual answer would be the Holy Spirit but the truthful answer would be our Home Group Leaders. As a Home Group we meet most Tuesdays and have worship, prayer, bible study and fellowship with one another. We had concluded learning about the Holy Spirit and the next topic to explore was an indepth study on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit; what they are and how they can be put into action and used by each member of the Group.

In our Group, my interest was sparked following the announcement: "Tonight we are going to look at gifts of the Holy Spirit and ask for the ones we want." This terrified all who heard this announcement and it took weeks of reading scriptures, praying about the spiritual gifts which Paul and others refer too and completing a questionnaire before it all began to make sense to us.

The Lord gave me some time off work, so it seemed timely to utilize the time immersing myself in this study. At the same time the 30 Day Challenge (<u>www.challenge.co</u>) began (8th year – I'd tried previous years and hadn't completed the programme) so, I decided to marry this exploration of the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit with using Social Media, marketing and communicating via the internet to share with others this amazing subject of God's Gifts.

This publication is a short version – God's Gifts: identifying what are the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit and where to find them in the Bible. My next endeavour will be a longer version on God's Word: discovering how Spiritual Gifts are used by ordinary people in today's society and how to develop and grow these gifts. As we begin with note what and where the Gifts are found I trust you find this book useful in your own adventures and learning about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. <u>www.holyspiritgift.com</u> is my website to explore further.

How to use Spiritual Gifts?

The Bible makes it very clear that the purpose of the Gifts is for God's work. We are directed to use the Gifts for others and how, when and where we use these Gifts is defined by our individual relationship with God.

It is only possible to use the Gifts to their full potential when we understand the Will of God and are praying to ensure they are used for His purposes.

HIS WORD - Ephesians 4:11-12

"Out of the Generosity of Christ, each of us is given his own gift."

The Message

"To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up".

NIV

Where in the Bible?

Scripture Reference	No of Gifts	No of Fruits	Some Numbers
Romans 12:6-8	7 gifts listed		A total of 84 mentions of
1 Cor 12:8-10	9 gifts listed		Gifts in the Bible.
1 Cor 12:28	8 gifts listed		54 in Old Testament and30 in New Testament
1 Cor 12:29-30	7 gifts listed		There are a total of 25
Ephesians 4:11	4 gifts listed		Spiritual Gifts from the bible references (NIV)
1 Peter 4:11	2 gifts listed	2 fruits listed	listed and includes Exodus
Galatians 5:23-24		9 fruits listed	listed on the next page.

15 Gifts: Administration, Artistic Skills, Distinguishing between Spirits, Encouraging, Evangelist, Faith, Hospitality, Interpretation of Tongues, Leadership, Love, Pastors, Prayer, Showing Mercy, Speaking, Understanding.

10 Duplicate Gifts mentioned 26 times: Apostles (2), Contributing to the needs of Others (3), Healing (2), Knowledge (2), **7** Miraculous Powers (2), Prophesying (4), Serving (3), Speaking in Tongues (2), Teaching (4), Wisdom (2).

Where else in the Bible?

Scripture Reference	Gifts/Skills	Story	Other References
Exodus 35:30-35	Wisdom Understanding Knowledge Artistic Skills Teaching	Filled with the Holy Spirit Bezalel received the five Gifts. Oholiab joined him and had the gift of teaching	These examples of Gifts might seem more obscure as they are different to Paul's lists but perhaps we should not limit God's giftings to a simple list?
Deuteronomy 33:	12	Gifts or Blessings to the Twelve Tribes	I think there are many examples of spiritual gifts being used by people in the Bible in addition to the Paul's lists.
Deuteronomy 34:9	Wisdom	Moses laid hands on Joshua	Alongside this, Paul, in his letter
Kings 3:5-15	A discerning heart (Wisdom)	Solomon asks for a Gift	recognises Timothy's gifts of public reading, preaching and teaching (1 Tim
Romans 11:29		For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable	4:13-14).
Philippians 4:17	Paul thanking Thessalonians for their gifts	Fragrant offerings Gift of Giving	Our awesome God expects our uniqueness to unfold as we explore, develop and use our gifts. 8

The Gifts - Exodus 35:30-35

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Wisdom Understanding Knowledge Artistic Skills Teaching 	 Skill Ability Knowledge Designer Teacher 	 Wisdom Understanding Knowledge Workmanship Teaching 	 Skill Intelligence Knowledge of Crafts Artistic Designs Teaching

Exodus 35:30-35

Filled with the Holy Spirit Bezalel received the five Gifts. Oholiab joined Bezalel and had the gift of teaching

Different visions of the bible describe the gifts in slightly different ways and it is interesting and often useful to compare editions of the Bible.

The lists reproduced on this and following pages show descriptions of the spiritual gifts from the New International Version (NIV), The Message, King James (Authorised) and the New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition.

The Gifts - Romans 12:6-8

New International Version (NIV	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Prophesying Serving Teaching Encouraging Contributing to the needs of Others Leadership Showing Mercy 	 Preach Help Teach Encouraging Guidance In charge Aid to People Work with Disadvantaged 	 Prophecy Ministry Teacheth Exhorteth Giveth Ruleth Mercy 	 Prophecy Ministry Teacher Exhorter Giver Leader Compassionate

Romans 12:6-8

Just before listing the gifts, Paul reminds us that we are one body and that we have different gifts according to the Grace given us.

The Gifts - 1 Cor 12:8-10

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Apostles Prophets Teachers Workers of Miracles Healing Helping Others Administration Speaking in Tongues 	 Apostles Prophets Teachers Miracle workers Healers Helpers Organizers Those who pray in tongues 	 Apostles Prophets Teachers Miracles Healings Helps Governments Diversity of tongues 	 Apostles Prophets Teachers Deeds of Power Healing Forms of Assistance Leadership Various kinds of Tongues

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Paul reminds us that the Gifts are given for the common good and also reminds us of where the gifts come from in 1 Cor 12:3 Therefore I tell you that no one who is peaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus be cursed" and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord", except by the Holy Spirit. I love this reminder that we are speaking by the Holy Spirit when we praise his name and it grows our relationship with God when we do this.

The Gifts - 1 Cor 12:28

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Wisdom Knowledge Faith Healing Miraculous Powers Prophecy Distinguishing between Spirits Speaking in Different Tongues Interpretation of Tongues 	 Wise counsel Clear understanding Simple Trust Healing the sick Miraculous acts Proclamation Distinguishing between spirits Tongues Interpretation of Tongues 	 Wisdom Knowledge Faith Healing Working of Miracles Prophecy Discerning of Spirits Divers kinds of tongues Interpretation of tongues 	 Utterance of Wisdom Utterance of Knowledge Faith Healing Miracles Prophecy Discerning of Spirits Various kinds of tongues Interpretation of Tongues

1 Corinthians 12:28

These gifts are so important that Paul repeats them in the same chapter. He states that if you are the body of Christ you will be given a Spiritual Gift (v27) and one isn't more important than another (v25-26). 12

The Gifts - Ephesians 4:11

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Apostles Prophets Evangelists Pastors Teachers Works of Service 	 Apostle Prophet Evangelist Pastor-Teacher 	 Apostles Prophets Evangelists Pastors Teachers 	 Apostles Prophets Evangelists Pastors Teachers

Ephesians 4:11

The emphasis on gifts goes on to explain the importance of developing and using them. Paul talks about how the gifts will give us maturity and resilience against alternative teaching or attacks (v14).

The Gifts - 1 Peter 4:8-11

NIV	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Prayer Love Hospitality Serve Others Administer God's Grace Speaking 	 Prayer Love Cheerfulness Generous Words Help 	SpeakMinister	SpeakingServing

1 Peter 4:8-11

Peter reminds us that we need to use the gifts in love. Love covers a multitude of sins (v8) would give permission to be adventurous in trying out the Gifts until we can hone them.

Experience is a great educator, we often learn more from our mistakes than our successes therefore we need to be unafraid in trying out our gifts, to love and benefit others.

In the same way, we need to know how to appropriate accept gifts given to us from others who may also be trying them out and need to grow in confidence and skill. 14

Fruits of the Spirit



Galatians 5:22-24 and 1 Peter 4:7

I think Peter talks about it the best when he says the Fruits help the Gifts to come into being. One cannot work without the other.

Therefore, by using the Fruits of the Spirit (attitude) to manifest the gifts (action). Our attitudes need to be alongside God's way, therefore the attitude in which we give gifts to others and/or our bearing when we offer them need to be checked. Without the fruits being present then the gift is unlikely to benefit another person.

Through the fruits this is the way we administer the precious gifts of God, to be able to do HIS work with the right approach and becoming a role model for HIS goodness. 15

The Fruits - Galatians 5:22-24

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
 Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness Self-control 	 Affection for others Exuberance about life Serenity Willingness to stick with things Compassion Conviction that a basic holiness permeates things and people Loyal Commitments Marshal and direct our energies wisely 	 Love Joy Peace Longsuffering Gentleness Goodness Faith Meekness Temperance 	 Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Generosity Faithfulness Gentleness Self-Control

The Fruits

When considering the purpose of fruit, it can be seen as yielding for food to aid our growth and nutrition or it can seen as the means to reproduce.

We have choices to reproduce and multiply it (offering a gift) or to eat and consume it (receiving a gift).

The Fruits - 1 Peter 4:7

New International Version (NIV)	The Message	Authorised (King James)	New Revised Standard Version Catholic Edition (NRSVCE)
Clear mindedSelf controlled	Stay awake	 Authority (Oracle of God) 	Strength

The Fruits

Fruits of the Spirit have added value as they could be seen as forming part of the ARMOUR of God (Ephesians 6:10-18). They help to relieve stress and combat one of the most deadly of sins, gossip.

	Other references to consider:
Hebrews 13:15	"the fruit of lips that confess his name",
Proverbs 12:14	"from the fruits of his lips a man is filled",
Hosea 14:	"that we may offer the fruit of our lips", and
Revelations 22:2	"of fruit yielding its fruit every month".

Acknowledgements

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Sharing understanding and developing our own understanding of God's Gifts will enhance our lives and I wish you all the very best in your own personal adventure.

Coming Soon

What a huge, huge subject this is, I have only scratched the surface! However, I did want to make a start and introduce the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit in the Bible. I plan to explore our individual journeys into discovering the Gifts and how they apply to us as ordinary people in the 21st Century.

I will be researching for the next (larger) e-book: What does God want us to do with these gifts? How are they handed out - can we enjoy them or are they regarded as work? What can we learn from bible characters with spiritual gifts? Who would our role models be? Does God bestow these gifts on others; children, non believers, angels? How do I use and grow my gifts in the Service of HIM for the benefit of others? Does every Christian have them?

This is just a flavour and I await to see how the Holy Spirit directs my writing. Meanwhile, I would love to hear from you and include some of your testimonies where possible. Would you be interested?

YOUR Testimony

We learn from each other – so would you like to share your testimony about the Gift you have, how you use it and how you plan to grow it.

I would love to feature your story in the forthcoming Kindle Book.

Please contact me by email: ladeyadey@btinternet.com