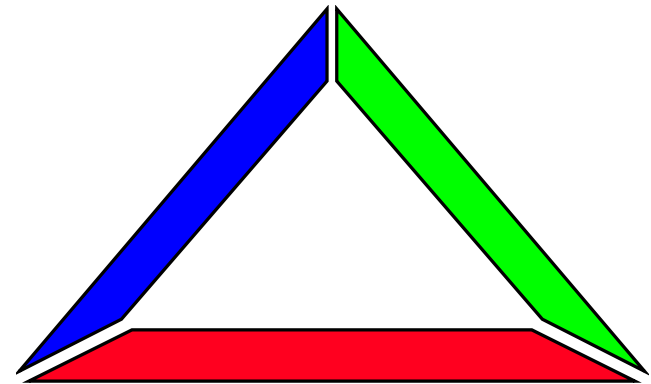


DEFINITIONS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS



“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another,
as good stewards of the manifold grace of God” (1 Peter 4:10).

DEFINITIONS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Temporary Gifts:

1. APOSTLESHIP— a gift given to just a few people in the body of Christ during the formative years of the church to facilitate the early church's growth and stability. This gift is no longer in operation today based on the "foundation" image given in Ephesians 2:20.
2. PROPHECY— a divine ability to speak forth divinely inspired messages that are absolutely true, trustworthy, and without error for the purpose of edification, exhortation, and comfort. This gift was needed in the days before the NT was completed. Like the apostolic gift, the gift of prophecy is no longer in operation today based on the "foundation" image given in Ephesians 2:20.
3. HEALING— a divine ability to restore sick people to complete health. The use of the plural noun in 1 Corinthians 12:9 (i.e., *gifts* of healings) implies that those who possessed this gift were sovereignly given a particular number of healings.
4. MIRACLES— a divine ability to perform supernatural feats.
5. TONGUES— a divine ability to speak in literal foreign languages and dialects. One of the main purposes of the gift of tongues was as a sign to unbelieving Jews.
6. INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES— a divine ability to translate the foreign languages and dialects spoken by one exercising the gift of tongues.

Permanent Gifts:

1. DISCERNMENT— a divine ability to distinguish between doctrinal truth and error.
2. FAITH— a divine ability to trust God's will and act on it with an unwavering belief in His ability.
3. WISDOM— a divine ability to wisely apply the teachings and principles of the Word of God to specific problems people may face; akin to counseling.
4. HELPS— a divine ability to support others in the body of Christ through volunteering for various tasks that arise.
5. ENCOURAGING— a divine ability to reassure, strengthen, and affirm those who are discouraged or wavering, or those in need of new spiritual growth.
6. KNOWLEDGE— a divine ability to edify the body of Christ through sharing information in specific areas of expertise.
7. SERVING— a divine ability to minister to others in practical and tangible ways.
8. ADMINISTRATIONS— a divine ability to understand what makes an organization function, and the special ability to plan and execute procedures that increase the church's organizational effectiveness.
9. TEACHING— a divine ability to edify the body of Christ through the teaching of the Word of God.