GET IN THE GAME

James 1:17 (NIV) Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

God's Gifts:

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Eternal Life

Romans 6:23 (NIV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God's Gifts:

- Eternal Life
- The Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV) "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

God's Gifts:

- Eternal Life
- The Holy Spirit
- Spiritual Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:1 (NIV) Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

Spiritual Gifts Are Not:

- Spiritual gifts are not the same as the gift of the Spirit.
- Spiritual gifts are not the same as the fruit of the Spirit.
- Spiritual gifts are not the same as natural talents.
- Spiritual gifts are not a substitute for the clear commands in scripture.

Spiritual Gifts Are:

• A spiritual gift is a supernatural, God-given ability, distributed to individual Christians by the Holy Spirit that allows Him to work through their lives to help the church execute its mission on earth.

Spiritual Gifts Are:

• They're given to believers in Jesus Christ only, and they're given as gifts — not as a result of your maturity level, prayer or education.

Spiritual Gifts Are:

- Spiritual gifts determine the types of Kingdom ministries in which a person will be most effective.
- Spiritual gifts, when mobilized, are a key to multiplication of the Church.

1. Every Believer Has a Spiritual Gift.

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NIV) There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.
- 1 Corinthians 12:7 (NIV) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:
- 1 Corinthians 12:11 (NIV) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

2. You Can Discover Your Gift.

- 1 Corinthians 12:8-9 (NIV) for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,
- 1 Corinthians 12:10 (NIV) To another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

3. We Are Commanded to Use Our Gift.

Romans 12:6 (NIV) We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

Romans 12:7-8 (NIV) If it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Mercy

"Ohhh.... I'm so sorry. Are you okay?"

Prophesy

"I tried to tell you! That's what happens when

you're not careful!"

Serving

"I'll clean it up."

Teaching

"The reason it fell is because your plate was too heavy on one side."

Exhortation

"That's okay, it could have happened to anybody."

Giving

"Here, take my dessert."

Administration

"Jim, you get the mop. John, you clean it up. Mary, why don't you fix another desert for them."

"Start where you are-do anything you can do, and do everything you can do, until you find something you must do! That something is probably your spiritual gift."

(Jim George)