

The Practice of Spiritual Gifts in the Local Church (5)

- I. The Test of Authenticity: The Reality of Counterfeit Spiritual Gifts (12:1-3)
- II. The Overview: The Source, Purpose, and Nature of Spiritual Gifts (12:4-11)
 - A. The Source, Purpose, and Nature of Spiritual Gifts (12:4-7)
 - B. A Sample of Spiritual Gifts (12:8-10)
 - 1. The Word of Wisdom
 - 2. The Word of Knowledge
 - 3. Faith
 - 4. Gifts of Healings
 - 5. The Effecting of Miracles
 - 6. Excursus on Signs and Wonders
 - 7. Prophecy
 - Its Basic Meaning
 - to proclaim
 - Its Old Testament Foundations
 - Its New Testament Description
 - prophecy was a spontaneous reality (14:26-33)
 - prophecy was Spirit inspired utterances (14:5-6, 29-30)
 - prophecy was intelligible speech (14:10-15, 22-25)
 - the receiver of the prophecy was in control (14:29-30)
 - the prophecy was to be evaluated (14:29, 32)
 - 8. The Distinguishing of Spirits
 - distinguishing discernment, differentiating, judging
 - The Connection Between the Gifts
 - The Meaning of the Gift
 - Discernment regarding the Speaker
 - Discernment regarding the Spoken Word
 - 9. Tongues
 - 10. Interpretation of Tongues
 - III. The Summary (12:11)
 - A. The Spirit's Involvement (12:11a₁₋₆)
 - B. The Spirit's Work (12:11a_{7-b})
 - works to operate, produce, effect, or work
 - C. The Spirit's Will (12:11c)

- 1) spiritual gifts are special endowments of grace, in the form of supernatural abilities or capacities;
- 2) these gifts are given to each individual saint uniquely, making each saint therefore necessary to the overall body;
- 3) these gifts are diverse in nature although unified in their object and purpose;
- 4) these gifts manifest themselves through ministries to Christ's church for its benefit;

- 5) these gifts produce certain effects in the church orchestrated by the Father;
- 6) some of the gifts were intended as short lived experiences in the church for its foundation and others for its ongoing growth.