

REVEALING TRUTHS

SPIRITUAL GIFT

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Preface

Growing up in a Pentecostal church, I often heard about "Spiritual Gifts" and how God blessed a select few, individuals who had spent enough time fasting, praying, and/or studying. If the works they had performed were good and were holy enough then they would be used by Him. I would see God working miraculous things through these individuals, and often did not question their teachings. I thought, "God is working through them; therefore, their teachings must be accurate." That would have been great if it were true but, sadly enough, operating in "Spiritual Gifts" does not always equate to good, solid teaching.

In these past few years, I have gone back and challenged everything I was once taught and believed. As I have embarked on this journey, I have come to realize that many of the things that I once held true were not right according to the teachings of the Bible. That includes what I had been taught concerning "Spiritual Gifts." The Bible teaches us to test everything and hold on to what is good (see 1 Thessalonians 5:21). Intentionally or unintentionally, we regurgitate what people teach and preach without ever really challenging those teachings with the teachings of the Bible. A thorough examination of Scripture often brings us face to face with traditions that go against the harmony of God's Word. People hold these traditions as if they were the very Word of God itself, but they are found nowhere in Scripture. People have named these traditions "sacred cows" but Jesus called them traditions of men that make the word of God of no effect (see Mark 7:13).

The subject of "Spiritual Gifts" is one of the most controversial subjects in the body of Christ, contributing to much dissension in the church. Generally, there are two main camps, those who believe in

the operation of “Spiritual Gifts” and those who don’t. Even within the camp of those who believe in the operation of the “Gifts,” people are divided on who can operate in them, when is it appropriate to operate in them, can a person impart the “Gifts” to others, and more. The topic is broad and deep, but very simple for those who are willing to live it and walk it out. As you go through this teaching, my hope is to provide you with a solid foundation for what “Spiritual Gifts” really are and to help you take at least one step closer to living and walking out the life that Jesus paid the price for you to live.

Sometimes as the truth comes to light we can find ourselves very upset. I spent quite a bit of money going to a Bible school that taught about spiritual things from a place of theory. I felt robbed of time and money. Only when I realized that my education was a stepping stone to get me to where I am now, I could continue to walk out the truths that I have now learned. Do not look back; keep going forward and pressing toward the mark of the high calling in Christ Jesus (see Philippians 3:14)!

My prayer for you as you go through this training and manual is that you will become free from condemnation and pressure to perform. “God will use you” is not found in Scripture. God wants to walk with you in a relationship and not use you. He wants to work with you. He wants to co-labor with you to see His message of salvation proclaimed throughout the earth (see 2 Corinthians 6:1-2).

As you walk with God, He shows you insights in His word, but more importantly, He reveals to you more of His nature and character. I know this simple revealing of truth will enable you to walk out more truth in your relationship with God. He is trustworthy and reliable. Put your trust in Him and see the goodness of God manifest in your life and those around you on a consistent basis.

Be the Gospel

Before Starting

This teaching is intended to allow you to walk in the promises, mercy, and grace of our Father, freeing you to boldly proclaim God's love in WORD and DEED. Together we will go preach the Gospel, manifest the power of the Gospel, and watch God's goodness change lives.

It's not just about going around manifesting the power and grace of God. We set them free to prove the Gospel, verify the supremacy of Christ, expand His Kingdom, and make disciples!

What this is not!

This study is NOT a means to make Christians argue or battle over doctrine at their local churches. It is not to train people to point fingers and condemn others who believe otherwise. It is NOT intended to promote dissension, pride, arrogance or rebellion against local church leadership, or to compare the results of one person over another. **Our duty is to proclaim the finished work of Jesus Christ, NOT to promote our intellect or spirituality.** Remember, the two ways the enemy tries to reduce a Christian's effectiveness are:

- Destroying people's identity by tearing them down and by making them feel worthless, unworthy, unknowledgeable, and incapable.
- Getting people into SELF RIGHTEOUSNESS by puffing them up and by promoting pride, arrogance, argumentative spirit, and lording over others.

Don't fall into the devil's traps!

Resources:

www.blueletterbible.org (for original Greek and Hebrew root words)

www.biblegateway.com

www.studybible.info (for original Greek and Hebrew see IGNT and IHOT)

www.scripture4all.org (for original Greek and Hebrew)

Crash Course in Greek

Greek is a very specific language. Do not let the Amplified Bible fool you. The Greek language has 4-5 words for “love”, 5 words for “power”, and specific words for “gift.” English is a very general language in comparison. This is one of the reasons why I encourage people to look at the original language it was written in. As I have traveled to preach with different interpreters around the world, I am often told that there are certain things that do not translate well. For instance, certain stories aren’t as funny as in the original language once translated. Therefore, most of the humor is lost. If that is true with just everyday interaction. How much more is it with God’s Word?

Words that mean “Gift” in Greek:

Give

Original Word: [δίδωμι](#)

Transliteration: [didomi](#)

Strong’s Number: [G1325](#)

Short Definition: [to give or offer](#)

Gift

Original Word: [δωρον](#)

Transliteration: [doron](#)

Strong’s Number: [G1435](#)

Short Definition: [gift, a present or thing offered](#)

Gratuity

Original Word: δωρεα

Transliteration: dorea

Strong's Number: G1431

Short Definition: gratuity

The Greek language has a morpheme suffix, -μα “ma”, mu-alpha, which denotes the effect, or manifestation, or result, or consequence of something. When you add “-ma” suffix to the root of various words, then it is like adding the word "-effect" to it. Let us look at some root words with the “ma” suffix.

Give-Effect

Original Word: δομα

Transliteration: doma

Strong's Number: G1390

Short Definition: give-effect - would be any result of someone giving or offering something (this is usually just translated as “gift,” but you can see how it makes all the difference. A gift is a noun while the give-effect is something as a result of a gift)

Gratuity-Effect

Original Word: δωρημα

Transliteration: dorema

Strong's Number: G1434

Short Definition: gratuity-effect, the result of a gratuity

We can also add “[ta](#)” at the end of “[ma](#)” to make it plural [only in the nominative and accusative declensions. Dative and genitive plurals would be spelled differently, although for this word there are no instances of dative or genitive in the New Testament. Koine Greek cases [here](#)].

Example: “[domata](#)” – [give-effects](#) (see Mark 7:11, Luke 11:13, and Ephesians 4:8 in [www.scripture4all.org](#)).

Spirit and Spiritual

Blow or breathe

Original Word: [πνεω](#)

Transliteration: [pneo](#)

Strong’s Number: [G4154](#)

Short Definition: [blow, breathe](#)

Spirit

Original Word: [πνευμα](#)

Transliteration: [pneuma](#)

Strong’s Number: [G4151](#)

Short Definition: [blow-effect, breathe-effect, spirit](#)

Breath

Original Word: [πνοη](#)

Transliteration: [pnoe](#)

Strong’s Number: [G4157](#)

Short Definition: [breath, \(indirectly breath of life\).](#)

Spiritual

Original Word: πνευματικός

Transliteration: pneumatikos

Strong's Number: G4152

Short Definition: spiritual

Now we have enough to reverse engineer what it should say in Greek for the phrase “spiritual gifts.”

δομα πνευματικός
doma pneumatikos

You will not find these two words together anywhere in the New Testament. Let us look at these things a little deeper and step by step.

“Spiritual Gifts” is not in the original texts of scripture!

Wait!

What?!

Yes, you read this correctly. Let’s look at a scripture in 1 Corinthians 12.

1 Corinthians 12:1 (ESV)

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be
uninformed.

Well, does not this scripture contradict what you just said? No, not at all.

While most English translations use the words "spiritual gifts." You will find, just as I did, that the word "gifts" is an embellishment of the translators. Translators inserted the word “gifts” into the passage but the Koine Greek word for *gifts (dōma/ dōra)* is not originally present in the passage.

Here is a closer translation:

1 Corinthians 12:1 (CLV)

Now concerning the spiritual endowments, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant.

Here is what it says in Koine Greek:

1 Corinthians 12:1 (IGNT)

περι δε των πνευματικων αδελφοι ου θελω υμας αγνοειν.
But concerning the spirituals, brethren, I do not wish you to be ignorant.

JUST AS I STATED IN THE CRASH COURSE IN GREEK, WE SHOULD SEE THESE WORDS:

“DOMA PNEUMATIKOS” OR “DORON PNEUMATIKOS”

WE WILL NOT FIND THEM ANYWHERE IN 1 CORINTHIANS 12.

What about the word “Gifts” in the rest of 1 Corinthians 12?

1 Corinthians 12:4 (ESV)

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;

another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one
Spirit,

In both instances, you will not find the word “doron” or “doma.” (see page 6 & 7) You will find the word “charismata.” Since Greek is a very specific language, then you must realize that what it is saying is something completely different than “gifts.” Let us look at the word “charismata.”

Grace

Original Word: [χαρις](#)

Transliteration: [charis](#)

Strong's Number: [G5485](#)

Short Definition: grace, unmerited favor

Grace-effects

Original Word: [χαρισματα](#)

Transliteration: charisma with “ta”

Strong's Number: [G5486](#)

Short Definition: Grace-effects, (Modern English - the effects or results of grace).

Here are several other scriptures with the word “charisma” or “charismata” that changes the whole meaning of those scriptures when you realize it is not a “gift” but the result of the gift of grace!

Romans 1:11; 5:15-16; 6:23; 11:29; 12:6

1 Corinthians 1:7; 7:7; 12:4, 9, 28, 30-31

2 Corinthians 1:11

1 Timothy 4:14

2 Timothy 1:6

1 Peter 4:10

Let us put what we learned into scripture, so you can see what a difference it makes.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Now concerning **spirituals**, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however, you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of **the results of grace**, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another **grace-effects** of remedies by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **All these are acting by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as intended.**

There is much more we can go into within the passage digging out exactly what it says here. From what we can plainly see already is that it is not by how much we ‘do’ or ‘do not do’ but our trust in God and His Grace is what matters. The amount of trust in God that you walk out daily is the amount of trust you place in His Word. It can be seen in your thoughts and actions.

The Corinthian church was not perfect:

- We also find that Paul calls the Corinthian church a carnal church! It wasn't because they had everything together. They were a mess. They trusted God and that's why the Spirit of God was manifesting in different ways.

(See 1 Corinthians 3:1)

- In the same letter, Paul stated they were carnal and is bringing order into the church concerning manifestations of the Spirit. (See 1 Corinthians 12:7)

What or rather Who is The Real Gift?

Luke 11:13 (ESV)

you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit** to those who ask him!"

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift (dorean – gratuity) of the **Holy Spirit**."

Acts 2:38 (CLV)

Now Peter is averring to them, "Repent and be baptized each of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the pardon of your sins, and you shall be obtaining the gratuity of the **Holy Spirit**."

Acts 10:45 (ESV)

the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed because the gift (dorean – gratuity) of the **Holy Spirit** was poured out even on the Gentiles.

The **Holy Spirit** is the GIFT of God. Jesus said that it was imperative for Him to leave so that He could send the **Holy Spirit**. We often read Acts 1:8 and focus on the power when we should be focusing on the **Holy Spirit**. The church has been trying to prostitute the **Holy Spirit** for power instead of getting to know Him and understanding that power comes from grace and trust (pistis – always translated faith [or belief]). For, those of us who are in Christ Jesus have entered His grace.

Romans 3:24 (ESV)

and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

Romans 5:1-2 (ESV)

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him, we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 1:4 (ESV)

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus,

I am speaking of real grace. The grace of God that enables us to overcome sin, not to wallow in it. The **Holy Spirit** comes and lives inside and makes you holy, hence His name. He has no fellowship with darkness and we are the temples of the **Holy Spirit**. (see 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

The grace of God leads to the results of God's grace.

Questions & Answers

Q: Are there only 9 grace-effects as listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10?

A: No, there are other lists throughout the New Testament and they are each different. This is a common misconception because they are the only ones talked about on a regular basis. We also have other lists in the Old Testament.

Romans 12:6-8 (ESV)

Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 (ESV)

And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 (ESV)

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Ephesians 4:11 (ESV)

he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds, and teachers,

Exodus 35:30-35 (ESV)

Then Moses said to the people of Israel, “See, the Lord has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, ³² to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. He has filled them with skill to do every sort of work done by an engraver or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, or by a weaver—by any sort of workman or skilled designer.

Different grace-effects or gift-effects listed:

- Prophecy
- Serving
- Teaching
- Exhortation
- Generosity
- Leading
- Acts of mercy
- Apostles
- Prophets
- Teachers
- Evangelist
- Pastors
- Miracles
- Grace-effects of remedies
- Helping
- Administration
- Various kinds of Tongues
- Tongues of angels
- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Skill
- Faith/Trust
- Intelligence
- Craftsmanship
- Etc...

Q: What about the scripture that says the Holy Spirit gives to whom He wills?

A: Would you agree that the Holy Spirit, Jesus and Father God are one? If that is the case why would you think Holy Spirit's will is any different from theirs? Let's look at the scripture to remove all doubt.

1 Cor 12:11 (ESV)

All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportioned to each one individually as he wills.

1 Cor 12:11 (IGNT)

παντα δε ταυτα ενεργει το εν και το αυτο πνευμα ιδια ειαστω καθως βουλεται
all, yet, these, is-in-acting, the, one, and, the, same, spirit, apportioning,
own, to-each, according-as, it/he-is-intending/intended

Notice it does not say “will/choose/determine” at all. The Holy Spirit is apportioning to each according as He intended or intending. We can go to John 14 and 16 and other passages to easily find these scriptures that show Holy Spirit's intentions.

Q: What about the 1 Corinthians 12:12-27?

A: *“Also, the context of the discussion in 1 Cor 12 has to do with what was going on in the gatherings (1 Cor 11:17-18) in Corinth, as does everything from chapter 11 through chapter 14, not elsewhere. In this case, they were focusing on this “grace-effect” versus that one, instead of seeing themselves as one body (1 Cor 12:12-27). It was the purpose of Paul’s teaching to appeal to the unity of the one body, not division; ironically, “spiritual gifts” teachings today tend to focus on dividing the body of Christ, either by highlighting differences between this person and that, or by getting into divisive arguments about the subject.” – Garth Wiebe – [articles on the biblical perspective](#)*

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves¹⁴ or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts,¹⁴ yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which are more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one

another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Reading the passage from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, it is easy to miss the entire context of what Paul is telling the Corinthians. It is not about esteeming one gift over the other, but about working together in harmony. You find in 1 Corinthians 13 about the motivation being love or it doesn't even profit you anything at all. Why would he place such a topic right after speaking about grace-effects? Simply to show that if you are operating in love it is not a competition, but you prefer someone over yourself.

Q: According to 1 Corinthians 13:8-10 and 12, “Gifts” pass away when you grow up.

A: As I have gone back and looked at this the facts speak for themselves. Once you take these three words into consideration it changes the entire meaning of the passage.

μερος ("meros"), Strong's G3313, [LSJ #68522](#): a share, portion, lot, part

τελειος ("teleios"), Strong's G5046, [LSJ #105840](#): complete, mature, full-grown, accomplished, perfected

καταργηω ("katargeo"), Strong's G2673, [LSJ #56587](#): render idle or unemployed, useless, to no effect.

1 Corinthians 13:8-11 (scripture4all.org arranged to make sense)

"[8] Love never fails, whether prophecies are unemployed or tongues cease or knowledge is unemployed. [9] Out of a portion we are knowing and out of a portion we are prophesying, [10] but when maturity comes then that which is out of portions shall be unemployed. [11] When I was an infant I talked like an infant and acted like an infant and thought like an infant. Yet when I became a man I stopped using the things of infancy."

If we apply the context of 1 Corinthians 11-14 here, we can see that Paul words are in the context of addressing how to function as one body. He is communicating to the Corinthians that as individuals they only have a portion, and they are not to be selfish in nature and focus on a grace-effect or esteeming one above another.

I would also take it a step further and say, “If the grace-effects or effects/results of grace have passed away, that also means grace has passed away.” You do not hear people saying grace has passed away because then it would mean that we believe in vain. So, why would they say that the results of grace have passed away? If there is grace, there will be results of grace or grace-effects.

Q: Ephesians 4:8 speaks of gifts given to men. What is that passage referring to?

A: We could go into a lengthier discussion here, but let us focus on the Greek words used in Ephesians 4:7-8 to start you on your journey to dig out the deeper truths in this passage.

Ephesians 4:7-8(ESV)

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift (dorea). Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts (domata) to men."

We have all been given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift (dorea). As we saw during our teaching, "dorea" literally means "gratuity". From Acts 2:38 and other passages, we know that gratuity to be the Holy Spirit. Moving on to verse 8 the Greek word changes from "dorea" to "domata". In other words, Paul is shifting the attention from the "gratuity" to the "give-effects", or in context, "give-effects or effects of giving".

Ephesians 4:7-8 (ESV)

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gratuity. Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave *give-effects or effects of giving* to men."
