

Our Gifts and Calling – Part 2

Ephesians 4:1-8 NIV

Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ

4 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I ***urge you to live a life worthy of the calling*** you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing ***with one another*** in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

⁷ But ***to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.*** ⁸ This is why it^[a] says: “When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.”^[b]

1 Corinthians 12:1-11 NIV

Concerning Spiritual Gifts

12 Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.

³ Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ There are ***different kinds of gifts***, but the same Spirit distributes them. ⁵ There are ***different kinds of service***, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are ***different kinds*** of working, but ***in all of them and in***

everyone it is the same God at work.

⁷ Now ***to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.*** ⁸ To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues,^[a] and to still another the interpretation of tongues.^[b] ¹¹ All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and ***he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.***

Romans 12:3-8 NIV

Humble Service in the Body of Christ

³ For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: ***Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought***, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, ***in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you.*** ⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ ***We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.*** If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your^[a] faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead,^[b] do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Everything is Spiritual:

- **1 Corinthians 10:31 NIV** ³¹ So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, ***do it all for the glory of God.***
- **Colossians 3:15-17 NIV** ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the

Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, ***do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus***, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

If you are a believer, you have Spiritual Gifts available to you:

- God distributes measures of faith (up to us to develop it) in various areas – Romans 12:3
- God distributes spiritual gifts (up to us to use them) – 1 Corinthians 12:7

You're not that special (but you are)...

- You didn't earn your gifts
- Your gift(s) isn't better than someone else's gift(s)
- Don't get any false pride in your gifts
- God has a unique design for you, yet your function may be just like many others