

God has created and blessed each individual with a unique set of gifts. We should seek to exercise our gifts when given the opportunity to serve Christ. We also need to surrender to God as Lord and realize that He is the Head of the Body and we are the parts of the Body of Christ. We need to be obedient and support one another with the whole Body in mind.

Rom 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God *are irrevocable*.

Rom 12:6-8 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; or ministry, *let us use it* in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Cor 12:4-6 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 Cor 12:12-14 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.

1 Cor 12:18-20 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where *would* the body *be*? But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body.

1 Cor 12:25-27 that there should be no schism in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with *it*; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with *it*. Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

Discussion Item 1: Which gift(s) listed below may be yours and why?

Life Application: If you are struggling with how to exercise a gift, introduce yourself to your local church and offer yourself as a service by expressing your strengths and desires.

Helpful Definition:

irrevocable – Incapable of being recalled or revoked; unchangeable; irreversible; unalterable; as, an irrevocable promise or decree; irrevocable fate. (*Webster*)

Notes:

Prophecy – The divine enablement to proclaim God’s truth with power and clarity in a timely and culturally sensitive fashion for correction, repentance, or edification. The ability to reveal God’s Word accurately.

Service – The divine enablement to attach spiritual value to the accomplishment of physical tasks within the Body of Christ. Ability to demonstrate love by meeting practical needs which releases other Christians for direct spiritual ministry.

Teaching – The divine enablement to understand and give detailed explanation of biblical truth. Ability to search out and validate truth which has been presented.

Exhortation – The divine enablement to come alongside another in need of encouragement; to reassure, strengthen, affirm and challenge those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith. Ability to stimulate the faith of others.

Giving – The divine enablement to earn money, manage it well and wisely contribute to the work of the Lord with cheerfulness and liberality. Ability to entrust personal assets to others for the furtherance of their ministry.

Leadership – The divine enablement to set goals and attract, to lead and motivate people to accomplish the work of the ministry. Ability to coordinate the activities of others for the achievement of common goals.

Mercy – The divine enablement to minister cheerfully and appropriately to people who are suffering or undeserving and to spare them from punishment or consequences justly served. Ability to identify with and comfort those who are in distress.

Apostleship – The divine enablement to start churches or ministries and oversee their development. Ability to minister cross-culturally with the goal of planting churches or starting new works.

Evangelism – The divine enablement to so effectively communicate the message of Christ to unbelievers that they respond in faith and discipleship. Ability to act as a productive instrument of God in soul-winning.

Pastor – The divine enablement to lead, care for, and nurture individuals or groups in the Body as they grow in their faith. Ability to effectively guide, feed, and protect a flock of followers in Christ.

Helps – The divine enablement to provide timely assistance that releases other Christian workers for direct Spiritual ministry.

Miracles – The divine enablement to effect powerful acts that authenticate the message of Christ and glorify God.

Healing – The divine enablement to be God’s channel to restore people to health.

Tongues – The divine enablement to speak in known languages.