

Discovering Your Place In The Body of Christ: 2

Discovering Your Basic Giftings and Ministries

Romans 12. 6-8; 1 Corinthians 12. 8-10; Ephesians 4. 11-12

Every single person in the church fits in and has a function to perform.

God has given to the church various sets of gifts:

- Basic Gifts
- Gifts of Holy Spirit
- Ministry Gifts

Romans 12 - Basic Gifts - God the Father has given to us.

- These are gifts that we have
- God has given every single one of us at least one of these gifts.

1 Corinthians 12 - Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

- These are gifts that we seek.
- These are available to every Christian
- We are told to earnestly desire them – there are nine of them

Ephesians 4 - Ministry Gifts - given to the church by Jesus Christ.

- These are gifts that we become.
- These include the Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers.

Difference between gifts and talents

- *Gift* – spiritual motivation or inward drive which prompts us to minister in a certain direction
- *Talent* – natural aptitude to do something well

When we are born again, the Holy Spirit regenerates our dead human spirits

- He deposits at least one, maybe more, of our basic abilities into our spirit
- These become our contribution to the development of the Body of Christ.

A **Basic Gift** is a spiritual urge or motivation, produced by the Holy Spirit, anointing a natural ability.

The anointing gives our talent potential

Romans 12.6-8 - So where do we fit in?

Everyone falls into at least one of these seven basic giftings:

- **Prophecy** – (preaching).
Prophecy must not be confused with the gifts of the Spirit or the ministry gift of Prophet.
The word prophecy as it is used in this verse means preaching - It is the gift of inspired preaching, the ability to present truth in such a way that it ministers to the hearers.
- **Ministry** – (serving).
This is a gift that enables the possessor to be sensitive to the personal needs of others.
The person that has this gift will demonstrate a deep concern and desire to help another brother or sister in practical ways.
This person will often be self sacrificial, overlooking their own comfort or convenience for the sake of others.
- **Teaching.**
This gift enables the possessor to be able to present Biblical truth clearly, comparing it with other Scriptures so that the context is made known. This person will enjoy digging out facts and searching the Scriptures to validate the truth.
- **Exhorting** – (encouraging/counselling).
The person that has this gift will have a unique ability to come alongside a struggling believer who has problems, and give support and encouragement. They will know the right words to say to minister healing and resolve in a situation.
- **Giving.**
The person with this gift will show great wisdom in handling material things such as money and possessions.
They themselves will be givers but will also have a God-given ability to organise their material affairs and assets to enrich the work of God.
Some with this gift may be positioned in business to support the work of God with profit.
- **Leading** (Co-ordinator).
The person that has this gift will demonstrate a great ability to preside over activities of others, to co-ordinate other people's labours for the enrichment of the Body.
They may be leaders of meetings, teams, or small groups. They may be leaders of a youth group, outreach team, choir, or overseer of a building project.
- **Showing mercy** – (sympathy, comforter).
This gift enables a person to be able to demonstrate a deep sympathy and empathetic understanding toward the misfortune of others.
They will find it easy to relate to and enter into the emotional needs of others and bring comfort and healing maybe just from their presence, without any words needed to be spoken.

If we fail to discover our basic gift, or if we fail to develop that gift and use it:

- we will become jealous and envious of ministry of others
- we will become anxious and insecure
- we will become critical and judgemental in our attitudes

To help you, we have a simple questionnaire that will guide you toward discovering that place where you fit. This isn't precise, it is only a guide but if you approach it with prayer it will direct your thinking in the right areas and will highlight areas of strengths – these could very well be your gift to the Body of Christ.

This questionnaire is available by emailing our offices: info@voice-faith.com