

Gifts We Give Away for God

How our spiritual gifts bless others
December 5 & 6, 2009

1 Peter 4:10-11

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen

Ephesians 4:7-8

Romans 12:6-8

1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 28-31

Matthew 25:14-30

God wants us to know what's in your box!

1 Corinthians 12:1

1 Corinthians 12:7

A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.

With Every great gift comes Great _____

1 Peter 4:10

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Romans 14:10

For we will all stand before God's judgment seat.

With Every great gift comes Great _____

- God blesses faithful servants Matthew 25:21
- We can ask God for greater gifts 1 Cor. 12:31
- Our gifts and impact can grow 2 Timothy 1:6

Now What?

1st Step D_____ Surrender and Pray

2nd Step D_____ Begin to give your gift away

3rd Step D_____ Take the 'next step'

Philippians 2:12-16a

Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed -- not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence -- continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. Do everything without complaining or arguing so you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life ...

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. Do you have an understanding of your spiritual gift(s) and how God wants you to use it to bless others? How did you discover them? Has your gift(s) been confirmed by others? If you're not aware, what steps can you take to gain insight?

2. Someone once said "*Have your tools ready and God will find you work*". Agree or disagree? How does this apply to investing our spiritual gifts?

3. Can spiritual gifts be misused? Why should spiritual character (Fruit of the Spirit, see Galatians 5:22-23) trump ability or ministry skill?

4. Jesus said "*It is more blessed to give than to receive.*" (Acts 20:35) How are we blessed when we release—'give away' our gifts through service? Share personal experiences.

5. Read Romans 12:1-6 Why is surrender a prerequisite to service? What happens if we don't surrender from the heart?

6. What difference *could* today's talk make in your life? What difference *could* it make in the life of our local church? What steps are required if 'could' becomes 'will'?