



MARCH 5

CHRIST, CULTURE & THE CROSS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS 101



GETTING STARTED

This weekend we returned to our series, *Christ, Culture & the Cross*. We learned that as Christ-followers, each of us has received spiritual gifts from God that are supernatural, and we should use these gifts to serve the body of Christ. When it comes to the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit, we need to be both open and discerning.

As you begin this study, spend a few minutes reflecting on this verse below. Write down anything that jumps out at you or that you sense God using to speak to you.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10



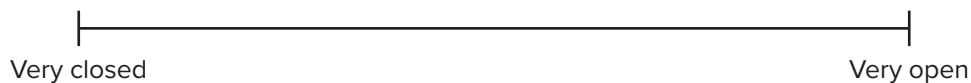
STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1) What is one new truth you learned about spiritual gifts from the weekend message?
- 2) Read through 1 Corinthians 12:1-12 twice, slowly.
 - a. What are the examples of gifts the Apostle Paul mentions in this passage?
 - b. Based on this passage, what is the purpose of the gifts of the Spirit?
 - c. What similarities do you see in verses 4 and 11?
 - d. Why do you think Paul is emphasizing that the Spirit is the one who distributes the gifts?
- 3) Read the following passages from these letters which were also written by the Apostle Paul.
 - Ephesians 4:11-16
 - Romans 12:3-8

- a. Write down the gifts listed in both passages.
- b. Next to each gift listed from Romans 12:6-8, jot down how Paul encourages that gift to be used.
- c. Based on Ephesians 4:12-13, why does God give us these gifts?
- d. How would you summarize Ephesians 4:16 in your own words?
- e. Look at the list of gifts you wrote down from these passages and from those in 1 Corinthians 12:1-12. Circle any gift(s) you believe you may have.
- f. To what extent are you using those gifts in your life right now?

4) One of the final questions Michael asked this weekend was *How Open . . . Are You* to the work of the Holy Spirit in your life? How would you answer that question?

- a. Use this spectrum to identify your level of openness. Put an X where you see yourself today and a * where you were 5 years ago.



- b. What is causing you to move in this direction?

5) This weekend we also learned how important it is for us to be discerning when we are encountering or experiencing the supernatural.

- a. Read 1 Corinthians 12:3 again. How does this verse help us understand how to be more discerning?

6) How have you experienced or witnessed spiritual gifts being used in a way that was beneficial to you or the body of Christ? Explain.

7) Have you ever experienced or witnessed spiritual gifts being abused (i.e., false teaching, using the gifts for power, control, or manipulation)?

8) Read 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 and rewrite this passage in your own words. What instructions does this passage give to help us be both open and discerning when it comes to the supernatural?