



April 26, 2026  
**The Spirit Gifts**

1 Peter 4:10-11 and Romans 12:4-8



1. **Sermon Outline:**

- a. The Spirit Gives One or More Gifts to Every Believer
  - i. The Holy Spirit gives believers special abilities for ministry
  - ii. There are many kinds of gifts and no exhaustive list in the Bible
- b. Determine Your Gift(s) Through Prayer, Reflection, and Listening as You Serve God
  - i. You'll generally find your gift as you serve the Lord
  - ii. Listen as you serve
- c. Use Your Gift(s) For the Good of All and the Glory of God
  - i. Your gifts are a stewardship to use well
  - ii. Use your gift(s) to build up the church
  - iii. You will experience joy and satisfaction when you use your gifts for the Lord

2. **Sunday** – As soon as possible after the sermon, consider:

- a. What stood out to you the most in this sermon?
- b. What new truth did you learn, or what truth were you reminded of?
- c. Is there a particular Scripture passage you feel God is leading you to meditate on or commit to memory?
- d. What is one thing God is leading you to do after hearing this message?
- e. Did God convict you of a need to make any changes in your life and walk with Him?

3. **Monday:**

- a. For this week's sermon, Pastor Brian used many verses, but the main texts were 1 Peter 4:10-11 and Romans 12:4-8. Begin your week by meditating on these two passages.
  - i. How do the teachings in these two passages complement each other?
  - ii. From these two passages, what conclusions do you reach concerning spiritual gifts?
  - iii. What would you say is the purpose of spiritual gifts?
- b. What command does Peter give us in verse 10?
  - i. As he begins the verse to whom does Peter indicate the command applies? Who does he exclude?
  - ii. What does Peter say we are (or will be) by obeying?

1. What do you think of when you hear the words “faithful stewards” in a church setting? What is usually being talked about or asked for?
2. How does that change when the object of our stewardship is “God’s varied grace” (“God’s grace in its various forms” in the NIV)?
3. Take just five minutes and start making a list of the ways you have experienced God’s grace so far this week (include both Common Grace that He gives to all and Special Grace available to Christians).

#### 4. *Tuesday:*

- a. Today read 1 Peter 4:7-11, meditating especially on verse 11.
- b. As Peter begins the paragraph, including the focal verses (10 & 11), what warning does he give to add emphasis to what he teaches us? Why should this cause us to place special emphasis on what he tells us in verses 10-11?
- c. What are the two general gifts or categories of gifts that Peter mentions in verse 11?
  - i. If viewed as categories for a variety of more specific gifts, what might be included in the speaking category? In the serving category?
  - ii. Read Acts 6:1-4. What categories did the Twelve Apostles put in place?
- d. When Peter says “whoever speaks” at the beginning of verse 11, who do you think he means, just those who are called to speak publicly (pastors and teachers) or a broader audience that potentially includes all Christians?
- e. What are the “oracles of God” (see Acts 7:38, Romans 3:2, 1 Thessalonians 2:4a, and Hebrews 5:12)?
  - i. Reading verse 11a carefully, what is the significance of the word “as” in this phrase?
  - ii. What are the personal implications of being required to “speak oracles of God”? What would a person have to do first (see 2 Timothy 2:15)?
- f. Why should those who serve do so “by the strength God supplies”? What does doing so preclude (see Philippians 2:3a)?
- g. According to Peter, what should be the ultimate objective of everything we do?

#### 5. *Wednesday:*

- a. Read and meditate on Romans 12:4-5, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, and Ephesians 4:4.
- b. As you read passages from these three books, what is the common description of the body? How does this relate to what we studied a few weeks ago about Jesus’ prayer in John 17 (see John 17:20-23)?
- c. What word is missing from Romans 12:4-5, showing us that “one body” is not an analogy, but indeed a fact? What difference does it make that we as Christians are all part of one body, not just like a body?
  - i. What does Romans 12:5 tell us that being members of one body tells us about our relationship to the other members? What does it mean to you that

you are “member one of another” (“belongs to all the others” in the NIV) with the Christians you sit near on Sunday morning? With the Christians meeting under a tree in a faraway land?

- d. What do we learn about our role in the body from these three passages?

6. **Thursday:**

- a. Read and meditate on Romans 12:6, 1 Corinthians 12:15-18 and Ephesians 4:16.
- b. Focusing just on the first phrase/sentence of Romans 12:6, how should we consider the gift or gifts given to us?
  - i. If we apply the common definition of grace as “God’s unmerited favor,” how does or should that affect our view of whatever gift(s) we have?
  - ii. How does 1 Corinthians 12:18 relate to and further expand on Romans 12:6a?
- c. What are the practical applications of the illustration Paul provides in 1 Corinthians 12:15-17?
  - i. According to this illustration, what happens to the body if we are not satisfied with the gift(s) we are given and attempt to “use” a gift we are not given?
  - ii. According to Ephesians 4:16, what happens if everyone accepts and uses their gifts in the manner God arranged them? What can we assume does not happen (or happen as fully as it could) when parts are off doing their own thing?
- d. Since God arranged the members the way He intended them to be (1 Corinthians 12:18) and gave the necessary and appropriate gift(s) by His grace (Romans 12:6), what are we doing when we try to do things our own way (see James 4:17 and Luke 12:47)?

7. **Friday:**

- a. Read 1 Peter 4:10, 1 Corinthians 12:7 & 14:12, and Ephesians 4:12.
- b. What are we to do with the gift(s) that we are given?
- c. The Bible does not give us an inclusive list of the gifts the Spirit gives, but it does provide 17-19 examples in several lists that represent different categories. Read these passages and make a list of the gifts mentioned (some are repeated in more than one passage):
  - i. Motivational gifts – Romans 12:6-8
  - ii. Manifestation gifts – 1 Corinthians 12:8-10
  - iii. Ministry Roles (gifts) – 1 Corinthians 12:28
  - iv. Equipping Gifts – Ephesians 4:11
- d. If you have time, define each gift and discuss how it is used in the church.
- e. A distinction is often made between natural talent and gifts, but such a distinction is not always appropriate since God gives both, and where a talent/skill ends and a gift of the Spirit starts may not be obvious. Read Exodus 31:2-6 (and 35:30-35 if you have the time). It seems likely that Bezalel and Oholiab had natural talent and had

probably learned their craft long before God called them by name, so we must be careful not to rule out talents and skills acquired even before becoming a Christian as not being a gift of the Spirit to be used to serve others and for the common good of the church.

8. **Saturday:**

- a. Today, read and meditate on 1 Peter 4:10-11, Romans 12:4-8, and 1 Corinthians 12.
- b. Consider how these passages apply to you personally as you live your life as a Christian.
  - i. How should these passages influence your involvement in our church and the way you relate to other Christians?
  - ii. What needs to change in your life and in the life of our church to ensure that in everything we do, “God may be glorified through Jesus Christ) (1 Peter 4:11b)?

9. **Application:** There can be no question about the fact that the Holy Spirit gifts us in exactly the right way and at the right time to accomplish God’s will. But it might be helpful to think about the relationship between what He calls us to do and when we receive His gift(s). We might want to ask ourselves if God “calls the equipped or equips the called”? Are we best serving Him if we look for the way we will serve based on a perceived gift? Or does God get more glory if we seek His call and then rely on Him to provide whatever gifts we may need to do what He has called us to do? Put another way, am I demonstrating more faith by going where He leads, even though I don’t (yet) have the gifts I will need? The answers may vary for different people or at different times, but we owe it to our Lord to seriously consider if we are truly taking up our cross or just seeking the easiest way to follow.

10. **Pray:** This week, we will be praying for two people groups from Laos.

- a. **Phunoi:** The Phunoi are an unreached people group in the northern mountains of Laos. While they are surrounded by the hills and valleys that testify to the reality of the Creator God, they neither know nor honor Him. Instead, they practice an ethnic religion, which is a blend of animism and ancestor worship, and live in fear of powerful spirits they believe they must appease. While a few Phunoi have learned about the God who made them, less than 0.1% have accepted Christ. Pray that more Phunoi people will hear the gospel, trust in Jesus, and know the Creator God who can free them from fear of spirits.
- b. **Katang:** The approximately 120,000 Katang are dispersed over a widespread area of southern Laos. For centuries, extended families of Katang have lived under one roof. When they married, the house would be extended to accommodate the new couple and any children they would later have. While many of their traditions are transitioning into the surrounding Laotian culture, 100-meter-long houses that house 30 families can still be found. They worship spirits that they believe offer protection and blessings. Although most Katang have absolutely no awareness of the Gospel or the claims of Jesus Christ, there is one Katang church in Laos, with approximately 100 known believers (less than 0.1%). They have faced great opposition from local authorities, shamans, and community leaders, who believe the presence of the Christians will bring a curse on the village from the spirits they have worshipped for countless generations. Pray that God will bless and anoint this small Katang church and use it to spread the Gospel to the Katang people.