



I. Tools & Toys

II. Gifting Of The Holy Spirit

1st Corinthians 12:8-11

Diversity

Galatians 5:22-25

Community

III. Using Your Spiritual Gifts

Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

Typically, when someone gives you a gift the intent is for you to be the primary beneficiary—your comfort & happiness are the goals. The spiritual gifts that God gives through His Holy Spirit are a little different. Yes, God wants you to be happy (in Him), but His primary reason for empowering you with spiritual gifts is for them to be used in ministry. God gives spiritual gifts because He wants to work through you, in community with other gifted believers, to further the fulfillment of the Great Commission.

The gifting of the Holy Spirit is about diversity. He gives different gifts to different Christians because there is strength in variety. God's purpose isn't to foster envy or competition among His people. His will is for them to be united in each one's personalized equipping & ability.

The gifting is also about community. God expects His people to work together in the shared mission of being the hands & feet of Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, believers are empowered to serve alongside one another, bearing one another's burdens & encouraging one another in love.

What spiritual gifts has God given you to use for His will & glory? How involved are you the partnership of ministry? Have you experienced the unique kind of joy that God gives when His people use their gifts together to achieve something bigger than could ever be achieved by an individual?

Prayerfully consider these questions by asking God to illuminate the true condition of your heart & attitude regarding spiritual gifting & ministry. Ask Him to reveal if you are a bystander or a participant in ministry. Thank Him for the opportunities He gives to minister in His name.