

# S.H.A.P.E.D. to serve



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## Part 3: Unwrapping spiritual gifts



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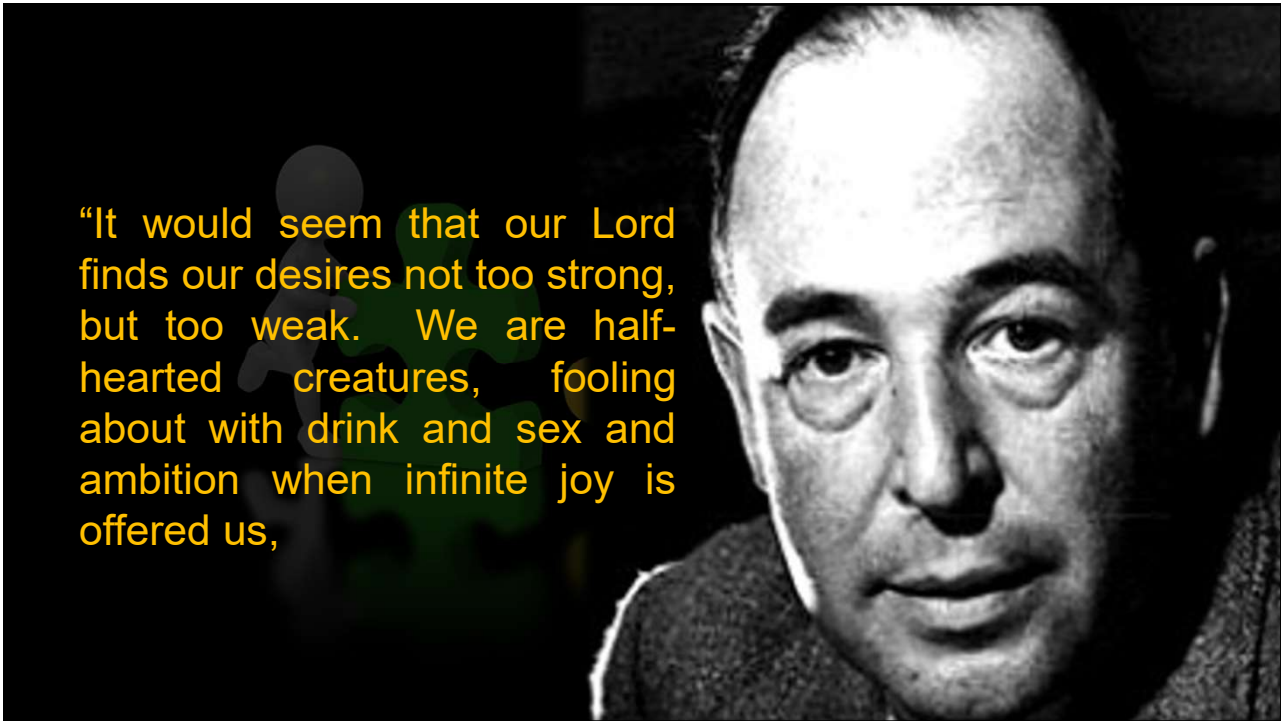


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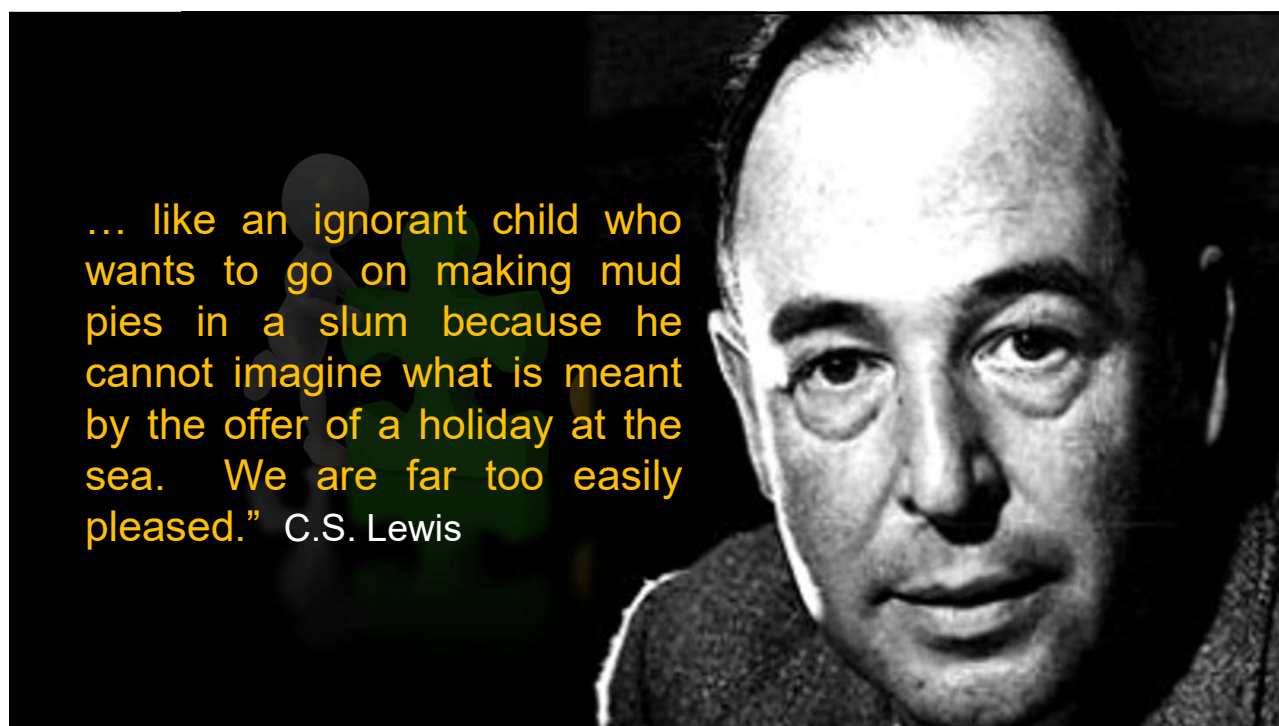


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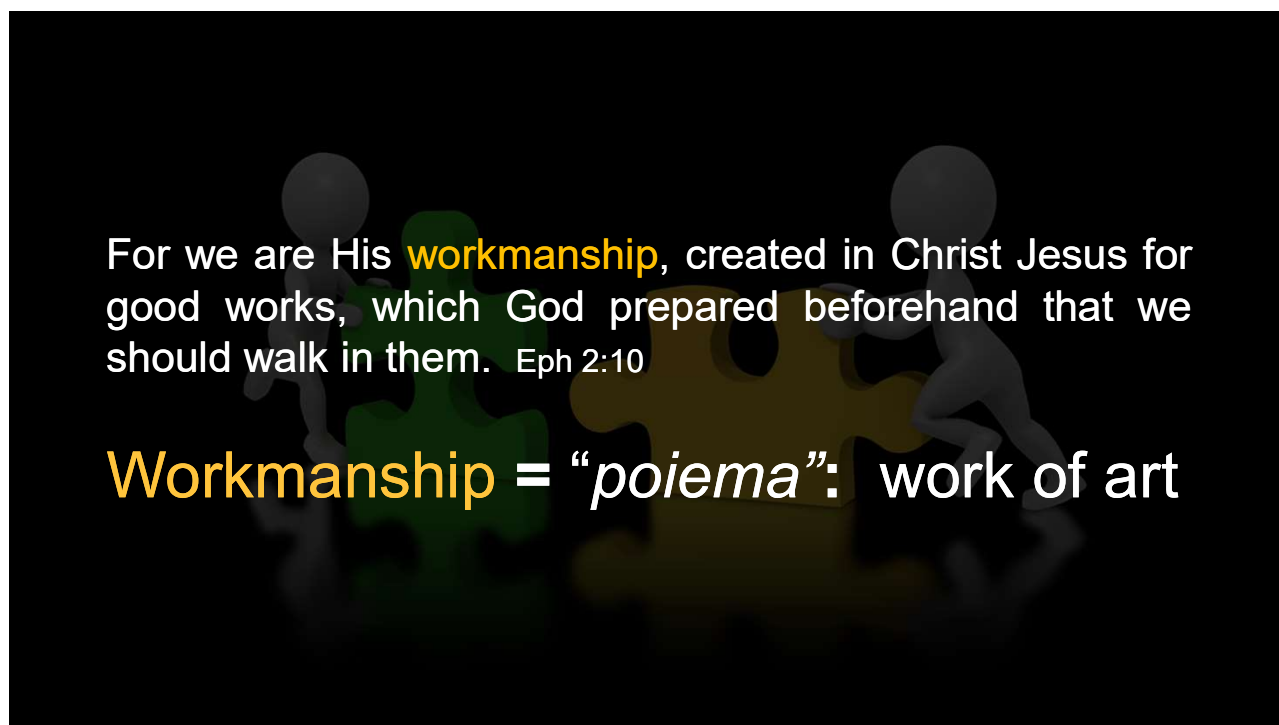
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... like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” C.S. Lewis

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For we are His **workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10

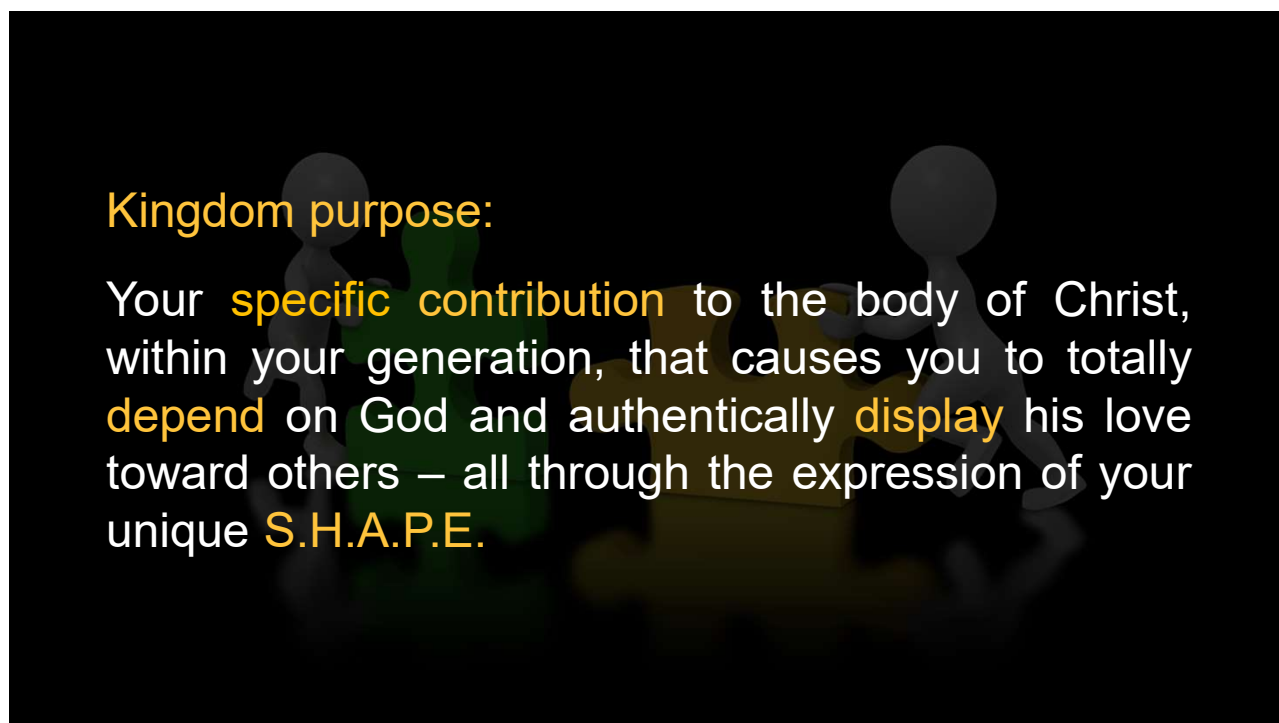
**Workmanship** = "*poiema*": work of art

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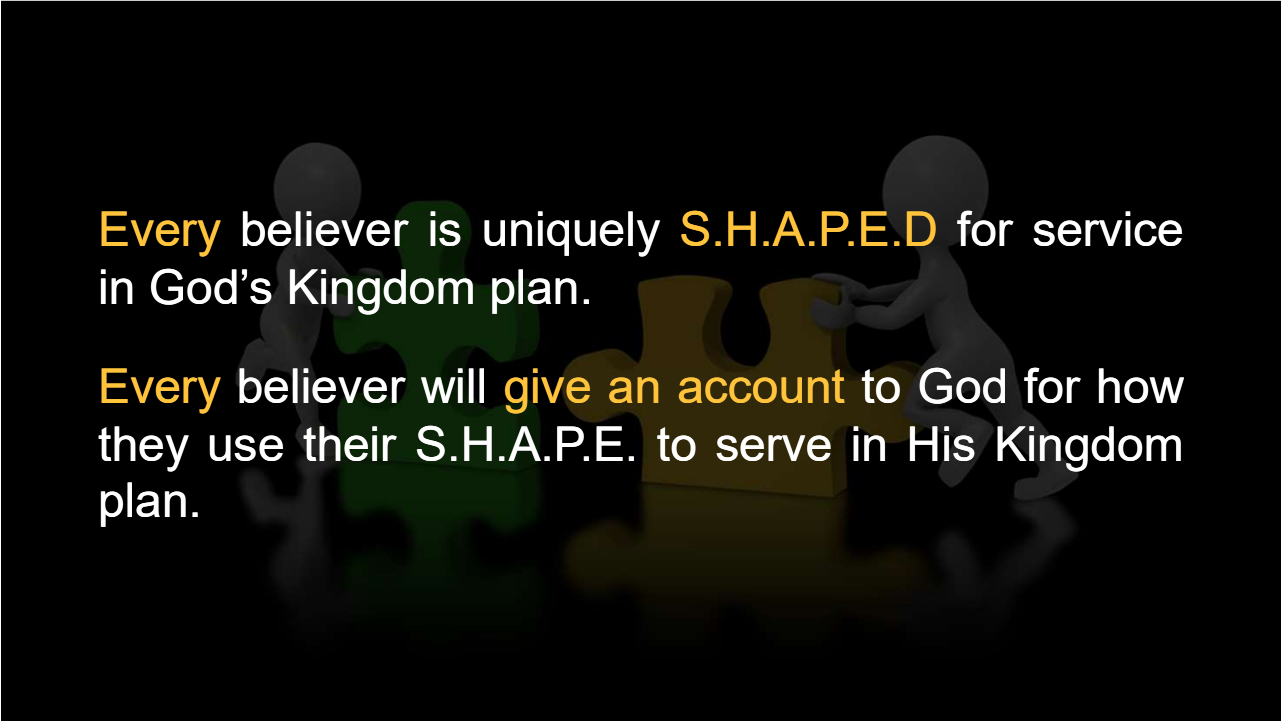


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**Every** believer is uniquely **S.H.A.P.E.D** for service in God's Kingdom plan.

**Every** believer will **give an account** to God for how they use their S.H.A.P.E. to serve in His Kingdom plan.

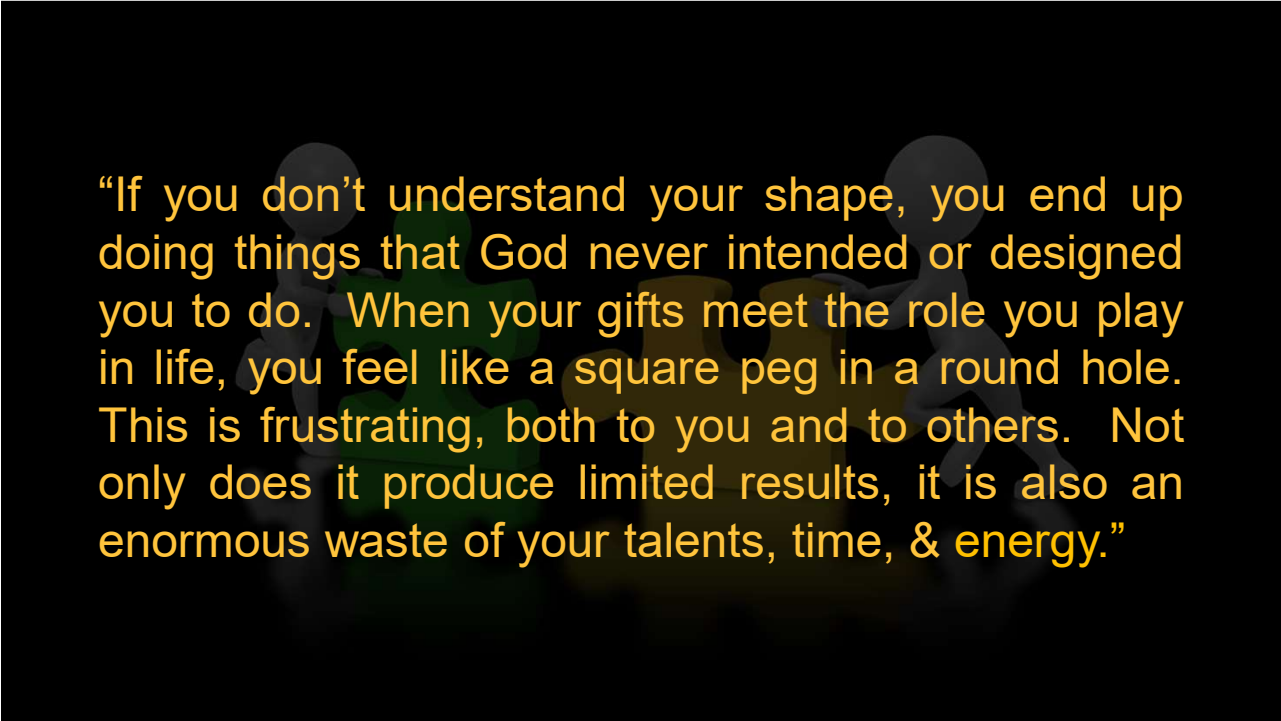
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**S.H.A.P.E. =**  
**S**piritual gifts  
**H**ear's desires  
**A**bilities/talents  
**P**ersonality type  
**E**xperiences in life

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“If you don’t understand your shape, you end up doing things that God never intended or designed you to do. When your gifts meet the role you play in life, you feel like a square peg in a round hole. This is frustrating, both to you and to others. Not only does it produce limited results, it is also an enormous waste of your talents, time, & energy.”

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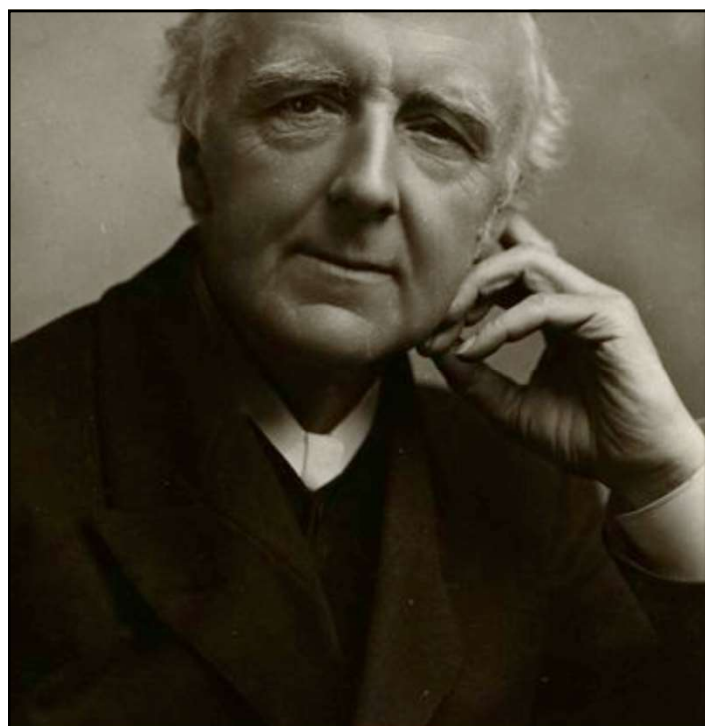


## Spiritual gifts

**1 Cor 12:1** Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant [uneducated]:

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"I used to think that God's gifts were on shelves – one above another – and the taller we grow, the easier we can reach them. Indeed, God's gifts are on shelves – and the lower we stoop, the more we get." F.B. Meyer

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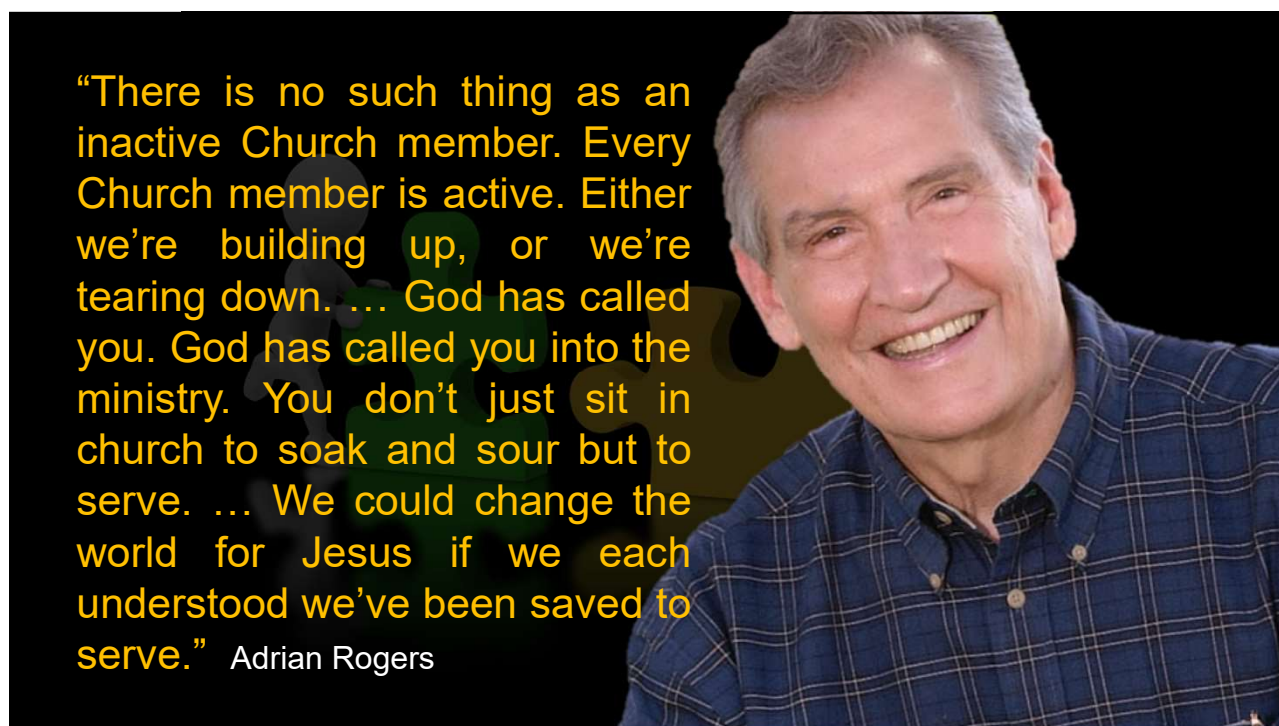
Leslie B. Flynn, *19 Gifts of the Spirit*:

"You are a gifted child of God. Since you are also given an outlet for your gift you are a minister too. For every gift He bestows, the Spirit has planned a sphere of service. Thus, no child should have an inferiority complex. Rather, awareness that he is a gifted child with an area of ministry should meet every child of God's psychological need to feel wanted and to possess a sense of worth."

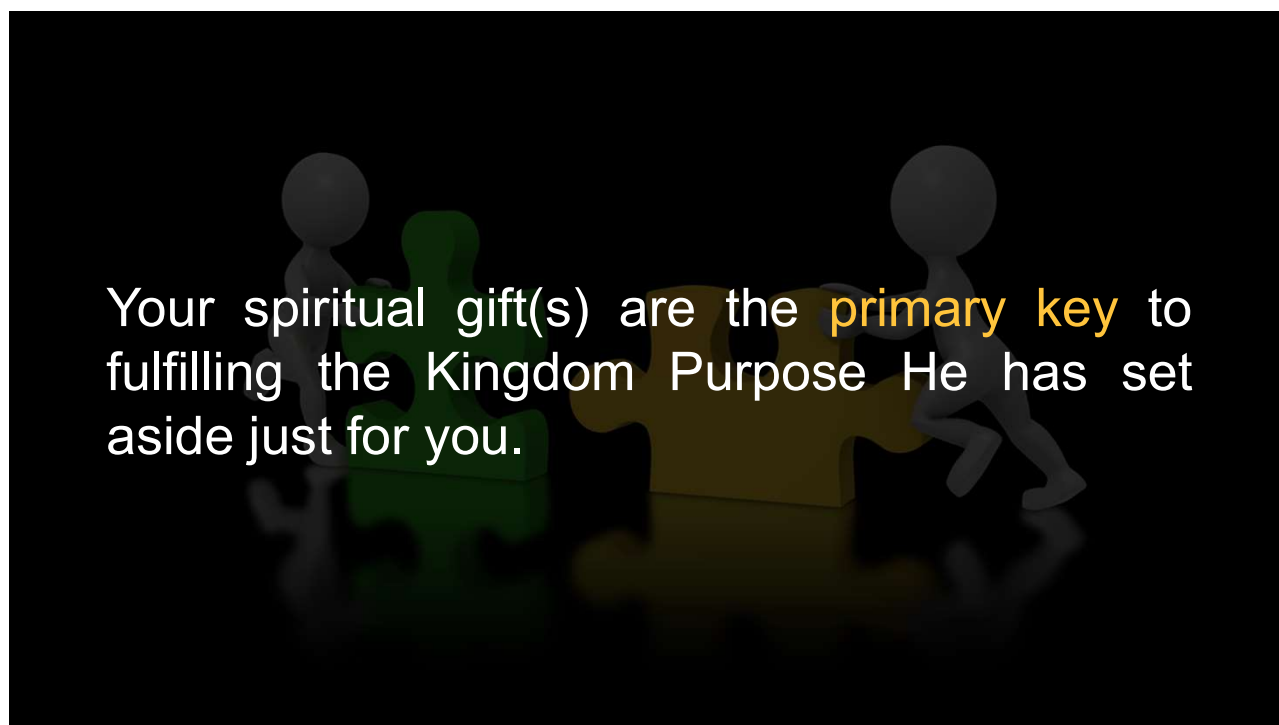


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A dark background with two 3D figures, one on the left and one on the right, placing large puzzle pieces. The piece on the left is green and the one on the right is gold. The text '1. What is a spiritual gift?' is overlaid in a yellow, sans-serif font.

# 1. What is a spiritual gift?

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A dark background with two 3D figures, one on the left and one on the right, placing large puzzle pieces. The piece on the left is green and the one on the right is gold. The text 'What a spiritual gift is not:' is overlaid in a yellow, sans-serif font.

## What a spiritual gift is not:

- Spiritual gifts are not abilities/talents.
- Spiritual gifts are not personality traits.
- Spiritual gifts are not the “fruit of the Spirit” mentioned in Gal 5:22-23.

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**Spiritual gift:** a special and specific ability or skill given supernaturally to every believer by the Holy Spirit to perform a specific function within the body of Christ with ease and effectiveness.

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2. **Why are we given spiritual gifts?**

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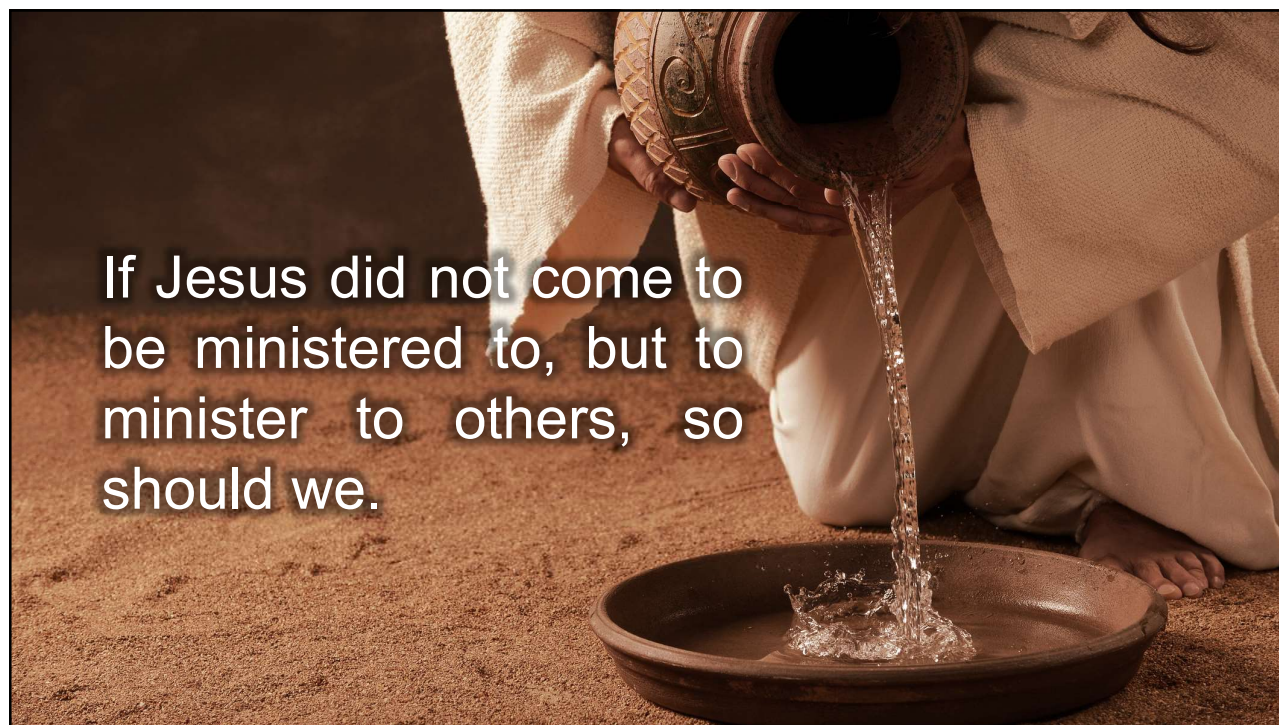


1 Cor 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the **profit of all**

Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the **edifying of the body of Christ**

**Jesus said:** “the Son of Man came not to be ministered to, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.” (Mt 20:28)

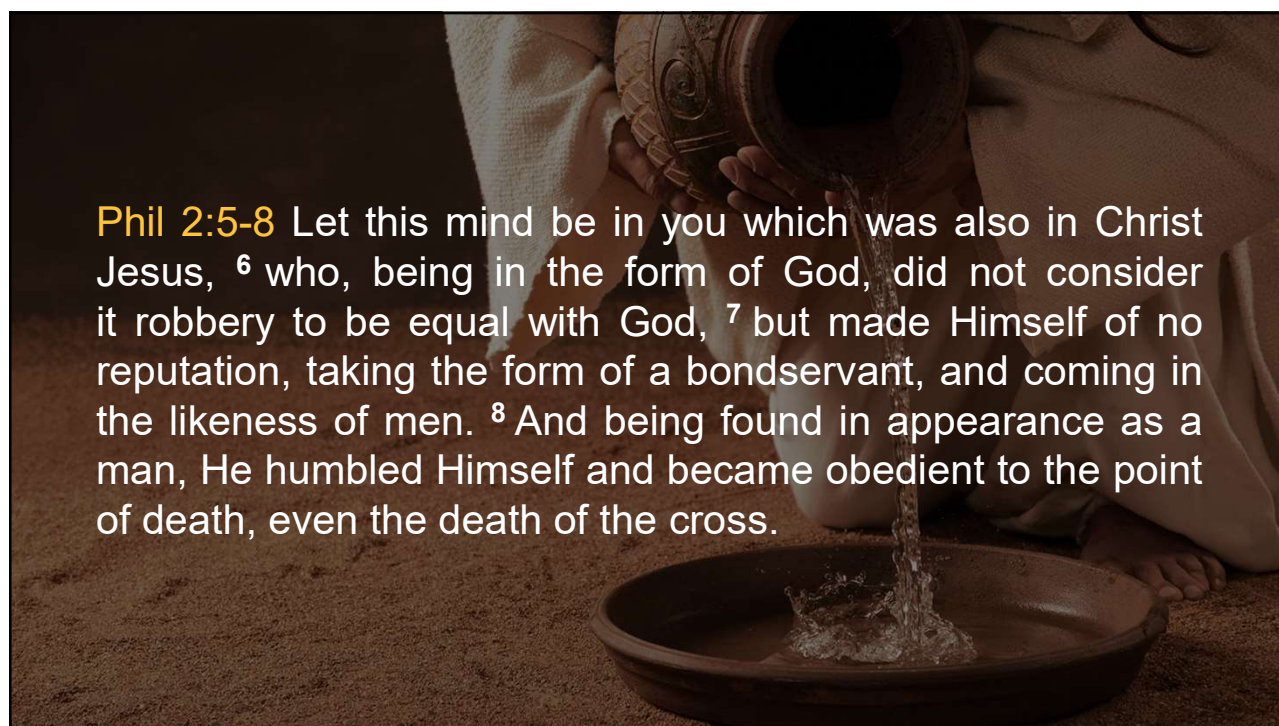
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If Jesus did not come to be ministered to, but to minister to others, so should we.

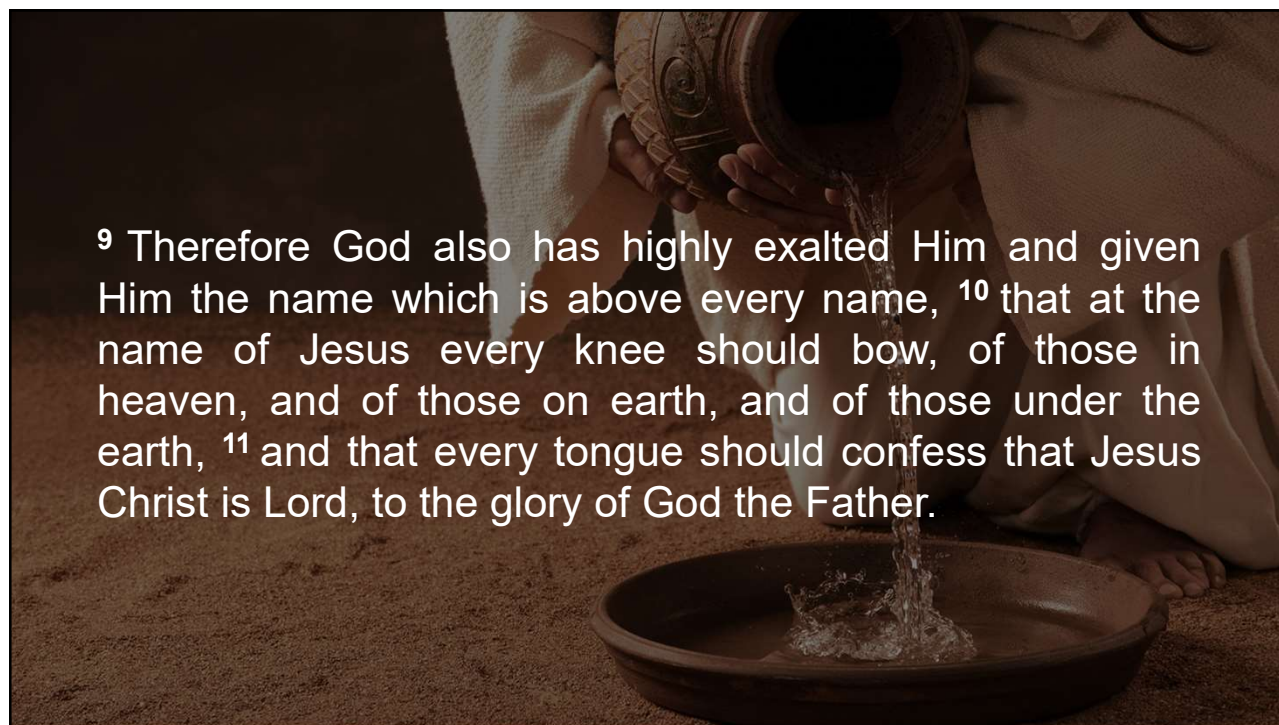
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**Phil 2:5-8** Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup> but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

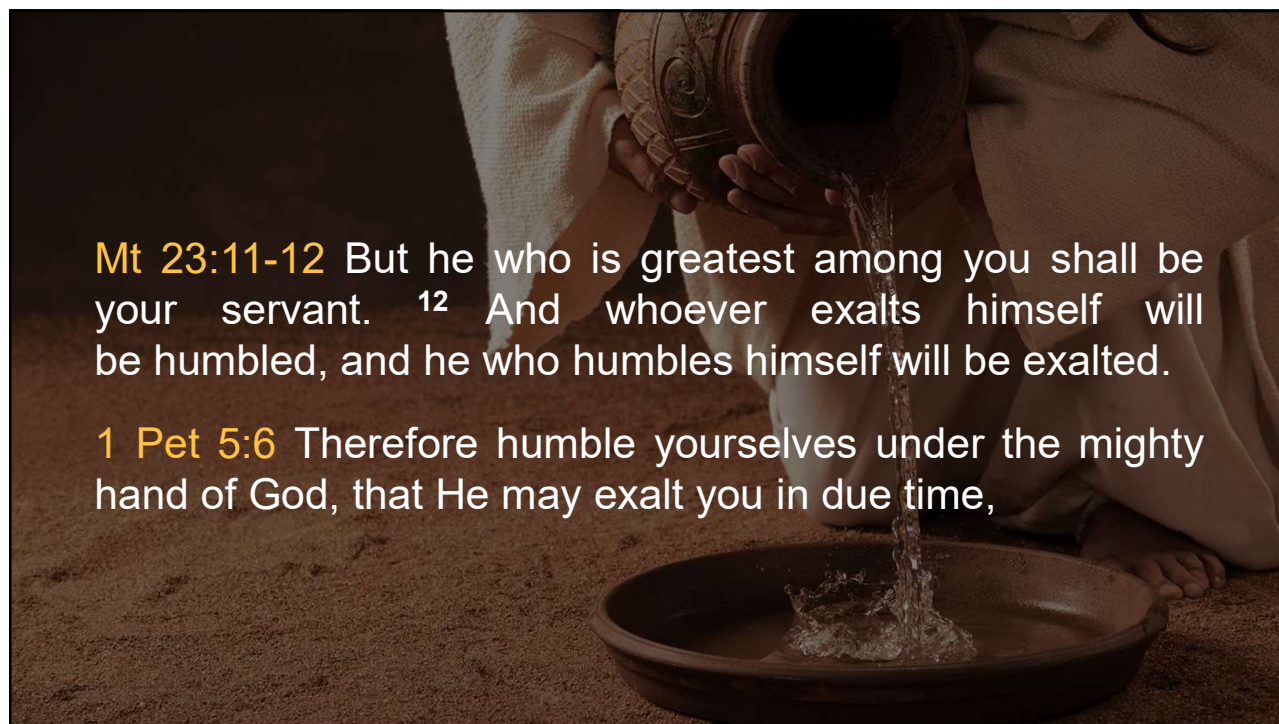
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<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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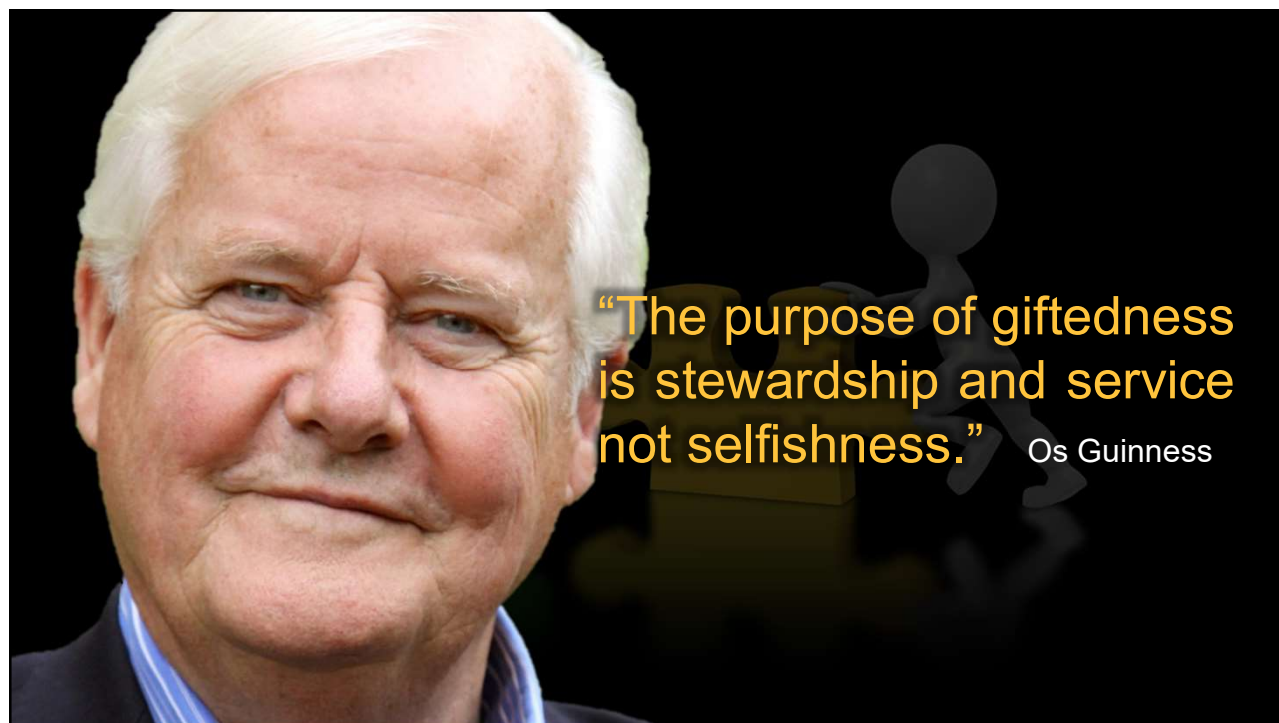




**Mt 23:11-12** But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant. <sup>12</sup> And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

**1 Pet 5:6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

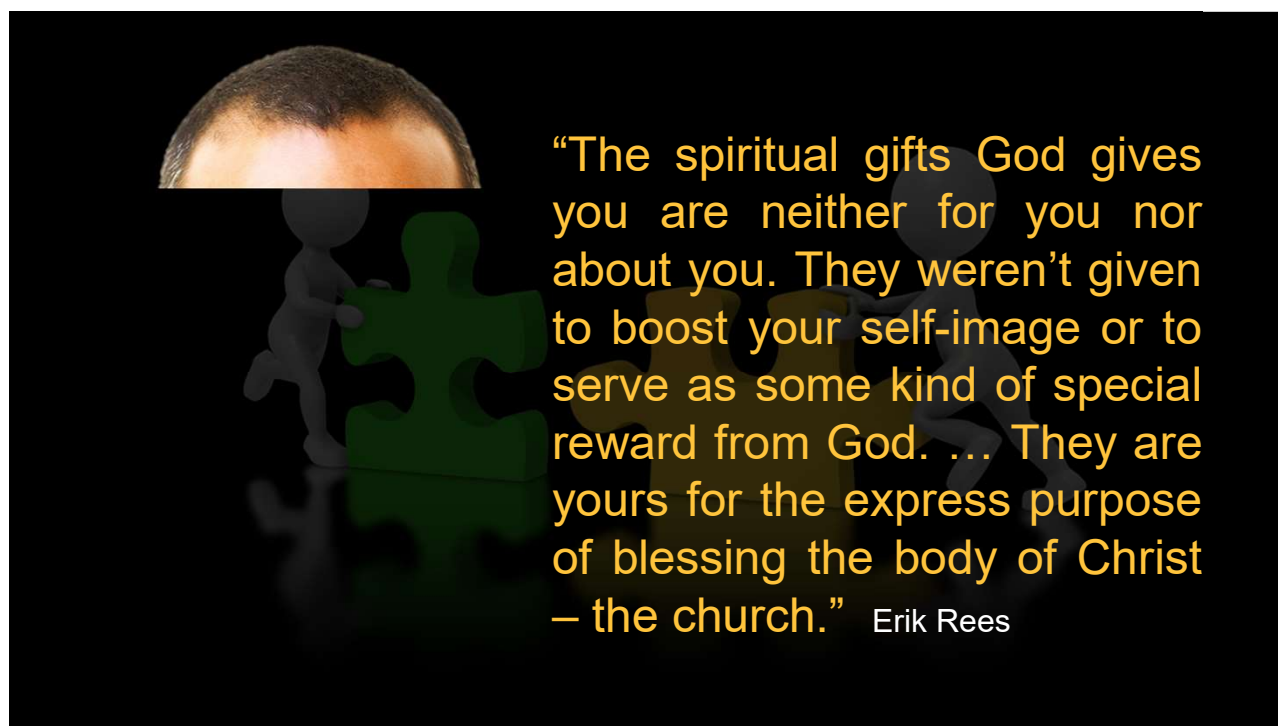
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**“The purpose of giftedness is stewardship and service not selfishness.”** Os Guinness

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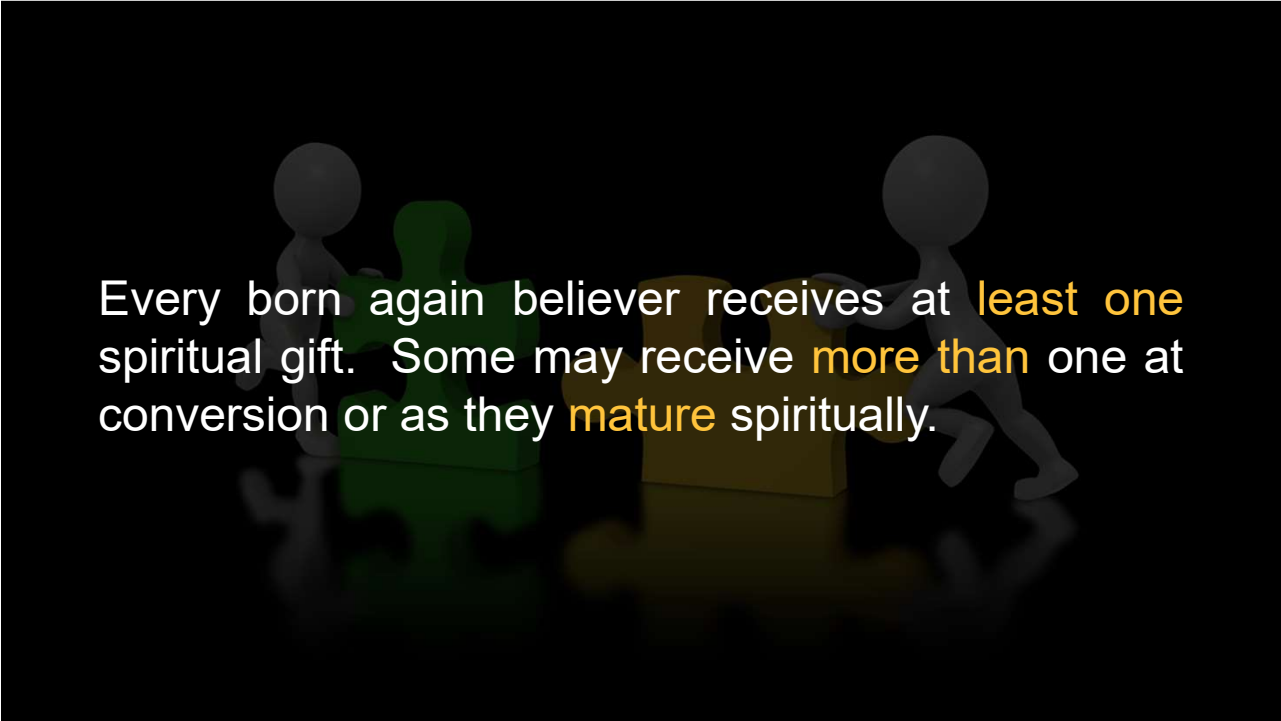


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A dark background with two stylized human figures, one on the left and one on the right, both holding large puzzle pieces. The puzzle pieces are green and yellow, and they are arranged in a way that suggests they are being put together. The text is overlaid on this image.

Every born again believer receives at **least one** spiritual gift. Some may receive **more than** one at conversion or as they **mature** spiritually.

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**Rom 12:3-6** as God has dealt to **each one** a measure of faith. <sup>4</sup>For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup>Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them:

**1 Cor 12:7,11** But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to **each one** for the profit of all: ... But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

**1 Pet 4:10** As **each one** has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

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4. “How many gifts you have is not nearly as important as discovering and developing the gifts you do have.”

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5. What spiritual gifts are available?

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Two 3D figures, one green and one gold, are shown placing large puzzle pieces onto a dark surface. The green figure is on the left, and the gold figure is on the right. They are both leaning forward, pushing their respective pieces into place. The pieces are large and have a 3D, blocky appearance.

## Listings of the spiritual gifts are found in:

Rom 12:6-8  
1 Cor 12:8-11, 28-30  
Eph 4:11  
1 Pet 4:9-10

35

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## Spiritual gifts can be divided into three groups:

- Speaking gifts
- Service gifts
- Sign gifts

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“One definition of failure is ‘succeeding in the wrong thing.’ A wise man has said, ‘Whatever a man does without God, in that situation he will do one of two things: Either fail miserably or succeed more miserably.’ ... If you get to where you’re going, where will you be? If you accomplish your goals, what will you have? And here’s the big question: Are the things you are living for worth Jesus dying for?”

Adrian Rogers