*The Truth About Spiritual Gifts*

**Answering Three Big Questions**

**About Spiritual Gifts**

**I. Introduction**

**II. Why Is There So Much Confusion About Spiritual Gifts?**

A. Because Satan is sowing confusion about this!

B. Because people are trying to analyze spiritual gifts without ever experiencing them.

1. You will never understand Christianity from the outside looking in.

2. In the Vineyard, we believe in all of the spiritual gifts that are in the Bible!

3. Every follower of Jesus is to operate in spiritual gifts.

**III. What Is the Purpose of Spiritual Gifts?**

A. To glorify the Triune God

1. I Corinthians 12:4-7 (NAS) *4Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

2. I Peter 4:11 (NAS) *Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

3. Luke 5:25-26 (NAS) *25Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. 26They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God.*

4. I Corinthians 12:4 (NAS) *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

5. Spiritual gifts are not given to us based on merit!

6. There is no relationship whatsoever between a spiritual gift that is given to someone by God, and the level of that person’s spiritual maturity!

7. The only condition for receiving spiritual gifts is that a person has to want to receive spiritual gifts, and asks for them.

B. To build up the body of Christ (the Church)

1. I Corinthians 12:7 (NAS) *But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

2. We encourage every Small Group to let all the spiritual gifts be expressed.

3. The “dispensational” viewpoint of Scripture

4. I Corinthians 13:8-10 (NAS) *8Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. 9For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.*

5. The “perfect coming” is talking about the second coming of Jesus!

**IV. Reasons We Don’t Seek Spiritual Gifts From God**

A. We’ve had some kind of disappointment with God.

1. You will never successfully move forward in the power of God unless you learn how to deal with failure.

2. When you seek to move in spiritual gifts, it’s not about you! It’s about God.

B. Personal discomfort

1. God wants us to trust Him in everything.

C. We’ve had distorted teaching about spiritual gifts in our past.

1. The proper response to the misuse of spiritual gifts is the proper use of spiritual gifts!

**V. Conclusion**