

Community Group Study Guide - Week #7

Spiritual Gifts

* Open in Prayer

* **Introduction**: This week we will be discussing spiritual gifts, where they come from, what their purpose is, and how we can know what our gifts are. We will be looking at the following scriptures – **Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:7-11**. For our discussion, we can use the definition of spiritual gifts by Gene Wilkes:

“A spiritual gift is an expression of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believers which empowers them to serve the body of Christ, the church.” (“Discover Your Spiritual Gifts,” LifeWay Christian Resources, LifeWay.com)

* **Getting Connected**: Share about a memorable gift you have received in your lifetime. Who gave it to you, and what was memorable about it?

* **Bible Study**: Read **1 Corinthians 12**. What do we learn about spiritual gifts from this passage? Who receives spiritual gifts? Who determines and gives what gift(s) we each receive? How would you respond to someone who is unhappy with the gift(s) they have and compares themselves with others? Are the gifts equally valuable, or is there a hierarchy of value placed on them? Look at the list of spiritual gifts on the resource tab on emmanuelbaptist.net, and go over what the various gifts mean that are listed in this passage. What gift(s) do you sense you have been given? (You can also access a 9-minute video on Spiritual Gifts at emmanuelbaptist.net, under the resources tab.)

* Read **Romans 12:6-8** and **Ephesians 4:11-13**. How are we to use the gifts we’ve been given? For what purpose are we given these gifts? What else can we learn from these two passages about spiritual gifts?

* Read **1 Peter 4:7-11**. What other information do we learn from this passage on why we are given spiritual gifts and how we are to use them?

* The following points should have been brought up in your discussion on the Scripture passages, but it will help to use these to recap your discussion:

- Every believer in Christ receives at least one spiritual gift.
- The Holy Spirit is the One who determines who gets which gift(s).
- Every gift is equally valuable.
- We are commanded to use our gift(s) to serve others and build up the body of Christ. (**Ephesians 4:11-13**)
- Using our gift(s) helps us grow spiritually, as well as helps others in the body grow too.

* As we study spiritual gifts, often times God will reveal our specific gift(s) to us through the following ways:

- His Holy Spirit will impress upon our hearts the gift(s) He has given us.
- He will use others within the body to affirm our gift(s).
- He will use spiritual assessments to reveal our gift(s).
- We can also begin to discern what our spiritual gift(s) are by asking ourselves two questions: (1) What am I good at? (2) What do I enjoy doing? Where the answers to these two questions intersect can often be a good indicator of what your spiritual gift(s) might be.

* **Application:**

- Has God revealed to you what your spiritual gift(s) are? In what way(s) has He done that?
- How would you respond to the two questions from above (What am I good at? and What do I enjoy doing?)?
- Have you ever taken a Spiritual Gifts assessment? If so, what did that reveal? If not, or if it has been awhile since you've taken one, would you be willing to take one? There is a copy of a Spiritual Gifts Assessment on the church's website emmanuelbaptist.net under the resources tab that you can print and take. Please use the information you receive from the assessment to start using your gifts to help build the body of Christ at Emmanuel. If you have questions on how to do that, feel free to reach out to your Community Group leader or one of the church staff.

* **Close in Prayer**