

***Living for Christ
in a Hostile World***

Studies in 1 Peter

Using our Gifts

1 Peter 4.10-11

1. What is a Spiritual Gift?

- ***A bundle of God's grace*** **Rom 12.6**
no room for pride, only humble gratitude
- ***Gifts are chosen for us*** **Eph 4.7; 1 Cor 12.11**
Jesus knows best!
- ***An innate natural talent***
or something given after conversion
spiritual because of its purpose

2. Who gets Spiritual Gifts?

- ***Each and every Christian 1 Cor 12.7***
- ***Pastors are called to help people Eph 4.12***
discern, discover, develop, deploy their gifts
- ***So, get involved!***
gifts are discovered experimentally
they are recognised by others
- ***Gifts need to be exercised***
under the guidance of church leaders
not a free-for-all
Ex 35.30-34; 1 Cor 14.33,40

3. What is the Purpose of Spiritual Gifts?

- ***To serve others,
thereby bringing praise and glory to God
not for our own benefit
though benefit is often a by-product
1 Tim 3.13
God looks for unselfish service Mk 10.43-45***

4. What are we to do with our Spiritual Gifts?

➤ *Use them!*

we owe it to others Rom 12.5

they can't function well without us

1 Cor 12.18-22

5. How are we to use our Spiritual Gifts?

➤ *Faithfully, reliably 1 Cor 4.2*

unreliability is a sin James 4.17

➤ *Faithfulness in small tasks*

leads to bigger opportunities Mat 25.21,23

6. What forms do Spiritual Gifts take?

- ***As varied as the colours of a rainbow v10***
e.g. verbal gifts – preaching, teaching, encouraging Rom 12.8
e.g. non-verbal gifts – practical kindness, giving, leadership Rom 12.8
administration 1 Cor 12.28
- ***It's the how, not just the what v11***
God's words when speaking Eph 6.19; 3.7-9
God's strength when serving
so that all the praise goes to HIM!