

discovering your  
**SHAPE**

**PART  
2**

January 18, 2015 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## **AN INTRO TO SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

*Romans 12; 1 Corinthians 12; Ephesians 4*

### **REVIEW: DISCOVERING YOUR "SHAPE"**

**S**piritual Gifts

**H**eart (passions)

**A**bilities

**P**ersonality

**E**xperiences

*discovering your*

### **SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

#### **WHAT SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT:**

1. Spiritual Gifts are not the same as your **PASSIONS & INTERESTS.**
2. Spiritual Gifts are not the same as **NATURAL TALENTS.**
3. Spiritual Gifts are not the same as **PERSONALITY TRAITS.**
4. Spiritual Gifts are not the same as the **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.**

#### **A DEFINITION:**

*Spiritual gifts are a set of God-given and Spirit-empowered spiritual abilities given to every believer, according to God's grace, to help them fulfill their God-given personal purpose as part of the body.*

## **DRILLING DEEPER:**

1. Spiritual Gifts are **GOD-GIVEN.**

*Ephesians 4:8; 1 Corinthians 12:11, 18;*

2. Spiritual Gifts are **SPIRIT-EMPOWERED.**

*1 Corinthians 12:11*

3. Spiritual Gifts are **SPIRITUAL ABILITIES.**

*The focus of Spiritual Gifts is on glorifying God and serving others.  
The outcome of using Spiritual Gifts is not just physical but spiritual impact.*

4. Spiritual Gifts are **GIVEN TO EVERY BELIEVER.**

*1 Corinthians 7:7; 1 Peter 4:10; Romans 2:3-6; 1 Corinthians 12:7*

5. Spiritual Gifts are **ACCORDING TO GOD'S GRACE.**

*They are undeserved, given by grace.  
They are given to believers in different quantities and measures (Romans 12:3, 6).*

6. Spiritual Gifts are **TO HELP YOU FULFILL YOUR  
GOD-GIVEN PERSONAL PURPOSE.**

*This is your personal mission within the context of God's greater purpose for the church. (See Matthew 28:19-20 and 22:36-40.)*

7. Spiritual Gifts are **IN THE CONTEXT OF THE BODY.**

*Apart from a solid theology of the nature of the Church (Ecclesiology),  
you cannot have a solid theology or understanding of Spiritual Gifts.  
Spiritual Gifts are at work in the Church gathered and the Church scattered.*

## **YOUR CHOICE...**

*Are you willing to discover and develop your Spiritual Gifts?  
Or will you remain uninformed and never "unwrap" your gifts?*

# HOMework



Open Your Group in Prayer. Use the Prayer Guide on the next page for Suggestions.

1. What is the best Christmas or birthday gift you ever received? Did you ever ask for things that you didn't receive? Tell the story!

**Read the primary passages on Spiritual Gifts and discuss them as a group. Romans 12:1-6; Ephesians 4:1-16; 1 Corinthians 12.**

2. Read through the definition of spiritual gifts. Take some time to discuss the main components of that definition. What did you learn this week?
3. What excites you about spiritual gifts? What concerns do you have about spiritual gifts?
4. **Read John 14:12.** Jesus told His disciples (and us) that they would do even greater works than He did on earth. What do you think Jesus meant by this? How could we do greater works than Jesus Himself? How does this relate to the use of spiritual gifts?
5. According to **1 Peter 4:10**, how are we to use the spiritual gifts we have been given? How is this action an extension of God's grace to others?
6. Pastor Josh said that it is impossible to have a biblical understanding of spiritual gifts apart from a biblical understanding of the nature of the Church. Why is that the case? (*See: Rom 12:3-6; Eph 4:4-15; 1Cor 12:7, 12, 27*)
7. Below is a good, helpful, and biblical definition of the local church. **Read it with your group...**

*The local church is a community of regenerated believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord. In obedience to Scripture they organize under qualified leadership, gather regularly for preaching and worship, observe the biblical sacraments of baptism and Communion, are unified by the Spirit, are disciplined for holiness, and scatter to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission as missionaries to the world for God's glory and their joy.*  
– Gerry Breshears & Mark Driscoll

8. From the definition above, what are some of the components of a biblical local church? For each component you see in this definition, answer the following question: *How would discovering and developing your spiritual gifts help us live this out as a church at Wawasee Bible?*
9. What is your personal experience with spiritual gifts? Which do you think you have? Have you taken time to discover them? Or have you neglected them?
10. Have you ever known someone who squandered his or her spiritual gift? Why do you think God placed that gift in that person?
11. How might discovering and developing your spiritual gifts benefit your 1:10 Group?

