

Things of the Spirit

Last week we shared that the *Holy Spirit* has at His disposal spiritual drives, opportunities, and results given by Him in order to accomplish His supernatural goals. We have access to these because at salvation His Spirit united with our spirit. Fortunately, all believers have to do is to ask *Him* (See *Luke 11:9-13*). Allowing more of the Spirit of God to dwell in us is a very important concept in becoming mighty in spirit. It has been said that *'we have not because we ask not.'* We lack effectiveness because we are unaware of the spiritual tools available to us by empowering ourselves with more of Him and His Spirit. From 1 Cor. 12:4-11 we shared that there are: *various kinds of: (1) gifts (charismata, gifts), (2) service (diakanion, ministries) and (3) working (energema, operations) in the things of the Spirit (pneumatics)*

Gifts (1 Cor. 12:4) <i>Charismaton (gifts)</i> Motivation (Romans 12:3-9) <i>"We have gifts that differ according to the grace that was given to us." Ro. 12-6</i>	Administrations (1 Cor. 12:5) <i>Diakanion (ministries)</i> Ministry (1 Cor. 12:27-31) <i>"God has put into His community..." 1 Cor. 12-28</i>	Operations (1 Cor. 12:6) <i>Energema (effect)</i> Manifestation (1 Cor. 12:7-11) <i>"...for the benefit of all..." 1 Cor. 12:7</i>
1. Prophecy Proclaim Truth Expose Sin	1. Apostles Sent Forth Mission/Establish	1. Word of Wisdom Seeing Life From God's Perspective
2. Serving Meet Needs Free Others	2. Prophets Proclaimers of Truth Confront Christians	2. Word of Knowledge To comprehend Messiah & God's Word
3. Teaching Clarify Truth Validate Information	3. Teachers Instructors Certify Message	3. Faith Visualizing What God Wants to Accomplish
4. Exhorting Stimulate Faith Promote Growth	4. Miracles Supernatural Deeds Activate Faith	4. Healing Removing Diseases in Spirit Soul or Body
5. Giving Entrust Assets Maximize Results	5. Healings Spiritual Restorer Mental Restorer Physical Restorer	5. Miracles Natural/Supernatural events with precise timing, giving glory to God
6. Organizing Plan Ahead Complete Tasks	6. Helps Assist Leadership Aid the Needy	6. Prophecy Bringing to light the secret motives of the heart
7. Mercy Remove Distress Share Burdens	7. Governments Overseers Local Elders	7. Discernment Recognize what is God's vs. world, flesh & Satan
	8. Tongues Various languages and the testing of tongues	8. Various Tongues Glorifying God using language and music
		9. Interpretation Declare divine messages

In *Ro. 12:6* in the CJB we are told: *"⁶But we have gifts (charismata) that differ and which are meant to be used according to the grace that has been given unto us. If your gift (charisma singular!) is prophecy, use it..."*

The passage above implies that we have a main singular gift. We can see our need for one another when we read: “³For through the grace given me, I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of yourself than you ought to think—but to use sound judgment, as God has assigned to each person a measure of faith. ⁴For just as we have many parts in one body—and all the parts do not have the same function—⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Messiah and everyone parts of one another” (Ro. 12:3-5). Let us consider the following illustration of how one exhorter can be used in the ministry of teacher and allow all nine HS manifestations:

Motivation	Ministry	Manifestation
		As this exhorter exercises his gift through the ministry of teaching, any one or all of the following results may occur in the hearts/lives of his hearers
1. Prophet	1. Apostles	1. Word of Wisdom One listener saw forgiveness from <i>God's</i> point of view
2. Server	2. Prophets	2. Word of Knowledge Another learned how to gain a clear conscience
3. Teacher	3. Teachers Let us further assume that the exhorter presents his message in the form of a class and that he was assigned to do this by his congregation. He would then be using the ministry gift of teaching.	3. Faith Another visualized what <i>God</i> wanted to do in his life through a clear conscience
4. Exhorter Let us suppose that an exhorter is invited to speak to a group of Believers, and he senses the need to guide his hearers to remove guilt. He is motivated to help them clear their consciences so that they are free to grow spiritually.	4. Miracles	4. Healing Another person gained physical health by removing guilt
5. Giver	5. Healings	5. Miracles Another experienced supernatural events that allowed him to clear his conscience
6. Organizer	6. Helps	6. Prophecy Another was deeply convicted and brought to repentance by seeing his true condition
7. Mercy	7. Governments	7. Discerning of Spirits Another recognized a root of bitterness within himself
	8. Tongues	8. Various Tongues Another understood the prerequisites of glorifying <i>God</i> through spoken language and music
		9. Interpretation Another understood & interpreted a deep-rooted issue with his parents

Seven Sense Perceptors in our bodies illustrate the Seven Motivation Gifts

Analogies between the physical body and spiritual Body of Messiah have their Scriptural roots in such passages as Romans 12:4-5. This precedes the instruction concerning spiritual gifts – coincidence, right? Medical researchers have discovered seven sense perceptors in the human body. These are described in the latest edition of Gray's Anatomy of the Human Body. Each perceptor bears a striking resemblance to a spiritual gift. This must be another coincidence, right?

1. HEAT PERCEPTORS

Heat perceptors send warning messages to the brain when heat passes a certain level of tolerance. When God's judgment was imminent upon His people, the PROPHET sounded the alarm.

2. TOUCH PERCEPTORS

The slightest touch is registered by these perceptors and sent to the brain for a response. When a person taps another, he usually seeks attention in *order* to have a need met. The SERVER responds to such situations.

3. BALANCE PERCEPTORS

If the body leans too far out of balance, these perceptors will call for muscle response to correct the situation. When a teaching is out of balance, the alerted TEACHER calls for immediate documentation and correction.

4. STRETCH PERCEPTORS

These perceptors register the amount of stretching that takes place when skin is in the process of growth or use. Similarly, the EXHORTER is alert to the spiritual growth and steps of progress that Believers are experiencing.

5. COLD PERCEPTORS

When an object near the skin is colder than the skin, it draws warmth from the body to itself. This action is detected by cold perceptors. A GIVER would respond to the need of a person who is cold and hungry.

6. PRESSURE PERCEPTORS

Deep pressure in the body triggers these perceptors, which in turn signal the brain to shift the weight of the body and thus avoid pain. When an ORGANIZER recognizes that too much pressure is building up on a few people, he will delegate the load to others to avoid serious consequences.

7. PAIN PERCEPTORS

These perceptors signal the brain when damage is occurring within the body. It is significant that other perceptors can be adapted to or ignored, but these cannot. A person with the gift of MERCY will feel the pain of another and will not be able to rest until the cause of the pain is removed.

How do we discover and activate our Motivational Gift?

First and foremost we must accept Messiah as our Savior and Trust in His Atonement (Ro. 10:9-13). Secondly we must enter into Messiah's Victory over Sin (Romans 6,7,8). Thirdly we must concentrate on the needs of others (Eph. 4:12-13). Fourthly we should discern our real motive in helping others (Romans 12:4). Fifthly we must identify what Believers do that cause us irritations (1 John 3:16). Then as we understand *spiritual matters* (1 Cor. 12, Ro. 12) we should be able to distinguish the characteristics and misuses of each gift. This seems like the most powerful way of all – we ought study this further!

