



Embrace

Are You Gifted?

[Ephesians 4:1-16]

A spiritual gift is a God-given and empowered ability to serve him in ways that benefit others. - TONY EVANS

1. DIFFERENT BUT GOOD [I COR. 12:4-7]
2. LIVING WITH PURPOSE [EPHESIANS 4:1-16]
3. WE'RE ON THE CLOCK [I PETER 4:7-11]

As God's children, we are not to be observers; we're to participate actively in the Lord's work. Spectators sit and watch, but we are called to use our spiritual gifts and serve continually. - CHARLES STANLEY

Discussion Questions/Prayer

1. Read I Corinthians 12:4-7. What are Spiritual gifts and why do they exist?
2. Read Ephesians 4:7-16 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-31. What message do both of these passages communicate about the church? [LCSB]
3. Read I Peter 4:7-11. In these verses Peter writes, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another..." [10] Can you identify something you do to serve others using your spiritual gifts?
4. Pray for God to give you spiritual insight concerning your Spiritual Gifts, and the wisdom and passion to use them as we do life together as the body of Christ.

I Corinthians 12:4-7 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Ephesians 4:1-16 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says,

"When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." [Psalm 68:18; Col. 2:15]

⁹ (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

I Peter 4:7-11 The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.