

Stewardship of Our Spiritual Gifts

3 Things You Ought to Know about Spiritual Gifts:

1 - Each believer has received at least one spiritual gift

- ρ I Cor. 12:7-11; Romans 12:3-8; (Eph. 4:11- gifts of Christ)
- ρ The gifts which were revelatory and have **ceased**: miracles, healing, tongues, interpretation of tongues, discerning spirits, word of wisdom, and word of knowledge.
- ρ The **gifts** still functioning today: teaching, service, helps, faith, exhortation, showing mercy, giving, and administration.
- ρ The gifts of the Spirit are given at **salvation** according to His will.
- ρ “But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills” (I Cor. 12:11).
- ρ We cannot **choose** our gift!
- ρ We may have natural abilities which we have received at birth: musical ability, craftsmanship, superior intellect, etc.
- ρ These natural talents or abilities are also from **God!**

2 - We must use our gift to minister to one another

- ρ Paganini’s violin
- ρ The gifts we have received from the Spirit are meant to be used.
- ρ “But the manifestation (gifts) of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all” (I Cor. 12:7).
- ρ It is love that drives the use of gifts - “And above all things.... love.”
- ρ We are to be good **stewards** of the gifts of the Spirit.
- ρ A good steward is a faithful steward (I Cor. 4:2).

3 - We must exercise our gift with the ability God supplies

- ρ Only when we serve in His **power** and with His enablement is He truly glorified.
- ρ When we are serving in our own strength or what we think is our own strength and ability, in all probability we are also serving for our own **glory** and recognition.
- ρ We must not serve to draw attention to ourselves.
- ρ The gifts, talents, and abilities you have are all from God!

LESSONS FOR OUR LIVES:

1. Our spiritual gifts AND our natural abilities or talents are all from God.
2. Be a good steward of your spiritual gift by using it.
3. Serve God with the ability He supplies that He might be glorified, not you!