

How Can I Give Glory to God?
1Peter 4:7-11

I can glorify (honor) my God by:

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| I. | <u>Praying guardedly as God has told me</u> | 4:7 |
| | 1. I should pray expectantly. | |
| | 2. I should pray earnestly. | |
| | 3. I should pray eagerly. | |
| II. | <u>Doing good like God has shown me</u> | 4:8-9 |
| | 1. I am to love others fervently. | 4:8 |
| | 2. I am to help others joyfully. | 4:9 |
| III. | <u>Using gifts which God has given me</u> | 4:10-11 |
| | 1. God give speaking gifts. | 4:10-11 |
| | 2. God gives serving gifts. | 4:11 |

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Romans 12:6-8	1 Corinthians 12:8-10	1 Corinthians 12:28-30	Ephesians 4:11
Prophecy	Word of Wisdom	Apostleship	Apostle
Serving	Word of Knowledge	Prophecy	Prophet
Teaching	Faith	Teaching	Evangelist
Exhorting	Healings	Miracles	Pastor/Teacher
Giving	Miracles	Healing	
Leading	Prophecy	Helping	
Showing Mercy	Discerning of Spirits	Administering	
	Tongues	Tongues	
	Interpretation of Tongues	Interpretation of Tongues	

Composite List (without Duplications)

Prophecy	Serving	Teaching	Exhorting
Giving	Leading	Showing Mercy	Word of Wisdom
Word of Knowledge	Faith	Healings	Miracles
Discerning of Spirits	Tongues	Interpretation of Tongues	Apostleship
Helping	Administering	Evangelism	Pastoring/Teaching

Spiritual gifts fall naturally into three categories: support gifts, service gifts, and sign gifts. The following chart helps to sort them.

SUPPORT GIFTS	SERVICE GIFTS	SIGN GIFTS
Apostleship Prophecy Evangelism Pastor-Teacher Teaching	Administrations Exhortation Faith Giving Helps Showing Mercy	Distinguishing of Spirits Miracles Healings Tongues Interpretation of Tongues

PRINCIPLES ON SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Christ revealed Himself first in a human body, through which all His attributes were manifest (John 1:14). Now He has a new body — the Church — a spiritual body. We who know Christ are that Body (Rom. 12:3-8, 1 Cor. 12:12-27). Each Christian is a vital member of Christ's Body, and just as a human body must work totally and completely together to be healthy, so we must function in interdependence with each other for the unity of this Spiritual Body.

God has set in order a plan for the healthy function of His Body. This is the plan — Each believer has been given certain Holy Spirit abilities, called “grace-gifts” or “spiritual gifts.” Through these gifts the Holy Spirit ministers to the other members of the Body and this network of inter-mutual ministry strengthens every part and allows the whole body to grow healthy and strong (Eph. 4:11-16).

The Bible provides some basic principles in the use and exercise of spiritual gifts/grace-gifts. Ten are highlighted.

1. They Are Important And Essential For The Health Of The Body.
These gifts are essential because they are vehicles/channels through which the Holy Spirit ministers to the Body. My gifts are for you! Your gifts are for me and others. For the body to be healthy and grow, all these gifts must be operative (Eph. 4:16)!
2. The Holy Spirit Is The Source Of All These Gifts.
The gifts are not to be sought (1 Cor. 12:11). The Holy Spirit gives them to all Christians. This is the common ground of all gifts. On this basis, if they all operate as they should, apart from the flesh, they will unite and not divide (1 Cor. 12:4-6). If there is division, it means the gifts are being used for selfish gain and not as the Spirit's gift to build up the Church. If the Spirit gave and ministered them as designed, He would not divide Himself.
3. The Gifts Are Not Natural Abilities.
They are sovereignly bestowed manifestations of the Spirit's power through divine enablement. The Holy Spirit may elect to use a man in the area of his natural ability, and gift him in that area, or He may not. The fact that one has a natural talent does not mean that the Holy Spirit will choose to use it.
4. There Is Not An Essential Hierarchy In Gifts, But There Is A Functional Distinction In Importance.
All the gifts are important, necessary, and to be honored (1 Cor. 12:25-31).
5. Gifts Are No Sign Or Guarantee Of Spirituality.
All believers possess them, even carnal believers (1 Cor. 12:7, 11). And gifts can be counterfeited and operated in the energy of the flesh. Having a gift is also no guarantee of being right, even in the area of your gift (1 Cor. 14:29), 32, 37). Even one who has the gift can misuse it in a fleshly manner (Ex. The

Corinthians and tongues). Satan can pervert the gifts to his use. So we see that the possession of a gift does not signify either spirituality or infallibility on the part of the one who exercises it. What is really from the Spirit will be done in harmony with Scripture. The authenticity of the message or work must be confirmed by the written Word and the witness of the Spirit.

6. The Gifts, When Rightly Exercised In The Spirit, Have The Promise Of Divine Energy.

(1 Cor. 12:4-7) When wrongly used, as in Corinth, they bring confusion and disorder (1 Cor. 14:33). Each Body member's gift can only be effective in building up the Body if it is exercised as the true gift, in the energy of the Spirit—not as a fleshly or satanic counterfeit. We must operate in the Spirit (1 Peter 4:10, 11):

- Prayer
- Yielded ness
- Filled with the Spirit
- Walk in the Spirit

7. When The Gifts Are Used, The Body Profits.

Both the one who uses the gift and the recipients of its ministry will be blessed (1 Cor. 12:7)—All the gifts work together for a healthy body. As I minister to you, you are built up in the areas of your lack. As you minister to me, I am built up in my weak areas. So all the gifts blend to make each member strong in all areas—thus to make the body strong/mature that it might have a dynamic witness (John 17:21,23).

8. The Gifts Of The Spirit Are Distinct From The Fruit Of The Spirit.

What is described in Gal. 5:22-23 are characteristics common to all believers who walk and live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

9. You Can Have A Gift And Not Be Using It.

Sadly, most Christians are in this situation (1 Tim. 4:14, 2 Tim. 1:6).

10. Spiritual Grace-Gifts May Come In Combinations.

Believers probably have more than just one (2 Tim. 4:1-5). Timothy and Paul both had many of the gifts.