

Discover Your Giftedness

Series of Articles by Dr. Mels Carbonell #8

One scholar believes there are a hundred different spiritual gifts in the Bible.

The following is part of a series of articles to help you Discover Your Giftedness in Christ. The first portion is just an introduction to this article. The rest of the article can be read on the internet.

One scholar believes there are a hundred different spiritual gifts listed in the Bible. Some are unique gifts such as martyrdom. (Revelation 2:13) No one wants to discover he has that gift! Some consider celibacy a gift of the Spirit. (1 Corinthians 7- 8) I'm sure that most of our single adults would not like to identify with that gift.

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Once while I was speaking at a conference, a man came to me and said he was upset because he had filled out someone else's spiritual gifts profile and discovered he had the "gift of celibacy." I asked, "What's the problem?" And he said, "I'm married!"

I'm not saying these unusual gifts are not biblical; but for the sake of practicality, I'm going to focus on the gifts most frequently mentioned in the Bible, and most experienced in the Christian community.

The gifts of tongues, miracles, interpretation of tongues, and healing are often controversial. The purpose of our discovery is not to resolve any theological debate that has been continuing for centuries. We simply want to solve the practical and functional problems of the church. We want to focus on these questions: Where do I fit best in the body of Christ? How can I avoid and resolve conflicts once I get involved in a ministry? To help identify our supernatural and natural motivations, we should identify our spiritual gifts and personality profiles.

Assessing your giftedness can be fun and enlightening. Part of the journey toward gaining a firm grasp on our spiritual gifts is also understanding human behavior science from a biblical perspective. One of the goals of this article is to help you understand why you feel or act the way you do in light of your spiritual gift.

While God created us with certain physical characteristics, He also gave us the ability to be emotional as well. Ultimately, our one goal should be to know Christ and become more like Him. Just as Jesus had emotions and behaved a certain way according to the role the Father had given Him, we can learn how to live according to our giftedness.

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