

Intro: I am not a cook, but I love to make soup! It's hard to mess up! Take basic ingredients, toss in pot...couple hours! Slow Cook Comes out great! That's a little of what I did this week Four major passages that deal with Spiritual Gifts, Early week put them in All week they have been cooking...and today I want to share some of the results with you!

Gifted For Greatness

Romans 12:1-21 pg 803 1 Cor 12-13 pg 813 Eph 4:7-16 1Peter 2:4-11 & 4:7-11 pg 857

G=Gifts (Spiritual) R=Ruling Passions E=Experiences A=Abilities (Natural) T=Type of Personality

In Today's Service, We are going to focus on Spiritual Gifts: The other material...is in the Booklet on your Table!

- Study Here: Take the Inventory here:
- Go to One of the Classes, or Small Groups
- Finish Some material at home
- Plan to meet with your Guide

4 Principles or Themes That Run Through and Connect These Passages!

1. The Motivation For Discovering Your Design is Love.

Spiritual Truth: *Functioning out of our Giftedness is a demonstration of our love for God and others.*

- **Love For God:** Last Week
- **Love For Others:**
Rom 12:9 Sincere: *Unfeigned; Not put on; Not*

1 Cor 13! Context: 12, 13, 14! 12: What they are! 13: The Motivation For Using them 14: Practical Applications!

Here is the bottom line. According to all the passages... We serve, use our gifts...Because we love God and Others!

APPLIC: Love in these passages is not a warm mushy feeling! It is the practical application and use of my God given abilities to serve your needs!

2. The Method of Using Your Design Is Unity Within Diversity.

Spiritual Truth: *We were designed to function within a unified whole, and cannot reach our full potential alone!*

- Rom 12:4-5 One Body, Many Parts
Belong to One another! *To be mutually dependant upon one another!*
- 1 Cor 12:25-26 Equal Concern Suffer Rejoice

APPLIC: Every Part has its place and significance, every part is essential,

ILLUS: Paper Cut (On Tongue!)

Darlene and I: Perfect Team...

3. The Ministry That Comes Out Of Your Great Design Is A Visible Demonstration Of God's Power.

Spiritual Truth: *We cannot accomplish anything of lasting Spiritual Impact without using our Giftedness*

Many will say...I can't do that...I can't (Teach, Preach, Serve) You are right!

You cannot do something that has a spiritual impact...IN and of yourself! It is only as God empowers you!

- 1Cor 12:7: **Manifestation of Spirit:** *Manifestation:=to exhibit, to make known or seen, to make visible*
Spiritual Gifts are the Holy Spirit and His power made real in our world!
- Rom 12:9-21 *No one could live that everyday on their own!*

Illus: Preaching: Arrogant to think you can stand and speak for God, People have life changed for eternity!

1 Cor 2:1-2 *Demonstration of the Spirit's Power! Paul doing what God Gifted him to do!*

2 Cor 3:4-5 *He has made us competent*

4. Spiritual Maturity Comes From Functioning In The Way You Were Designed By God.

Spiritual Truth: *We CANNOT reach spiritual maturity without functioning in our area of Giftedness*

Not the Result of Study, Content, Knowledge, Time, Bible Reading, SS Classes Etc

We were designed to grow in and through the use of our gifts. We will never become all God intended apart from that

ILLUS: It is like having muscles you never use! You have to use them stretch them exercise them to develop

- Eph 4:11 God Gave Gifts
- Eph 4:12 We use them to develop God's people
- Eph 4:14ff: When we use them the result is unity...and Maturity!

CONCL: Today we are going to take about 10 minutes in our service...and Do a simple Gift inventory

- Shows the right direction Indications (Deeper) Material on the table
- Some of the other Design Factors...For Use and completion at Home

Why Do I want you to Take the time to Fill out the Inventory: 4 Reasons

1. Helps you demonstrate you Love for God, and Others
2. Enables you to be part of something larger than yourself
3. Allows you to make yourself available for God to work through you!
4. Helps you Grow into all that God intends you to be.

