

# BRINGING JESUS INTO LIFE

SPIRITUAL GIFTS



Questions, comments ...



## Gifts ...

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1. What has been your favourite gift (given or received)?
2. What has been your most used gift?
3. What has been your least used gift?
4. How many times have you “re-gifted” something?

**In terms of our spirituality,  
what do we do (or not do) with our “gifts”?**

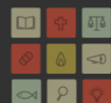


## A picture of the “ideal Christian life”

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- Written by Paul while living in Corinth, Greece (end of 3<sup>rd</sup> journey, late 50's)
- Written to Christians and churches in Rome, Italy

**Listen for *transformed thinking*  
that leads to *transformed living***



## Romans 12:1-21

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Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.

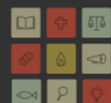


## Romans 12:1-21

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For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



## Romans 12:1-21

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Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.



## Romans 12:1-21

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Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



## A picture of “bringing Jesus into life”

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- More than just part of our vision statement
- More than just the Golden Rule

**Bringing Jesus into Life = Total Life Transformation**

- Spiritual gifts are a critical part of transformation



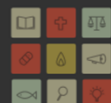
## 1. I have a spiritual gift?

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*“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.”*

- Spiritual gifts are God-given ministry abilities that result in effective service for the purposes of God.
- Spiritual gifts are part of spiritual birth.
- Spiritual gifts are diverse.



## 2. What do I do with my spiritual gift?

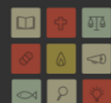
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*"If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."*

Use it



Questions, comments ...



## Further Resources:

- The rest of this series:
  - Spiritual gifts and my church Jan 18
  - Spiritual gifts and my calling Jan 25
  - Spiritual gifts and others Feb 1
- Teaching on specific gifts (Jan 26 & Feb 2, 2014)  
[www.westwoodchurch.bc.ca](http://www.westwoodchurch.bc.ca)
- Unfinished, by Richard Stearns

