



Scotts Hill Baptist Church

CHURCH QUESTIONS • SPIRITUAL GIFTS 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11 • 8/23/2026

MAIN POINT

The Holy Spirit gives every believer spiritual gifts to be discovered, developed, and deployed for the good of others, the building up of the church, and the glory of God.

INTRODUCTION

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

What is a gift or talent you have that you enjoy using? How did you discover it?

Why do you think some people are hesitant to use their gifts in front of others?

When you hear the phrase "spiritual gifts," what comes to mind?

The church has sometimes responded to spiritual gifts in two opposite ways: some have abused them, while others have neglected them. Paul addressed a similar problem in Corinth. His goal was not to eliminate spiritual gifts but to help believers understand them and use them rightly.

UNDERSTANDING

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11.

What does Paul say about where spiritual gifts come from?

What stands out to you about the variety of gifts described in these verses?

Paul teaches that spiritual gifts come from the Holy Spirit and are given according to His sovereign will. There are different gifts, different kinds of service, and different ways those gifts operate, but the same Spirit, Lord, and God empower them all.

What does it mean that the Holy Spirit gives gifts "as he wills"?

How should this truth affect the way we view our own gifts compared with the gifts of others?

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:7 AND 1 PETER 4:10-11.

According to these passages, what is the purpose of spiritual gifts?

How is a spiritual gift different from a natural talent or ability?

Every believer has been given spiritual gifting by the Holy Spirit, and those gifts are intended for ministry—not simply personal enjoyment. Spiritual gifts are given for the "common good," to serve others and build up the body of Christ.

Why is it important to understand that your spiritual gift is primarily for the benefit of others?

What might the church miss when believers know they have gifts but choose not to use them?

| HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ 1 CORINTHIANS 12:4-6 AND 1 CORINTHIANS 12:11.

Why do you think God gives different gifts rather than giving every believer the same gifts?

What danger comes from believing that some spiritual gifts make a person more spiritually mature than another?

The Corinthians had misunderstood spiritual gifts and viewed certain gifts as superior to others. Paul makes clear that having a particular gift does not demonstrate spiritual maturity. The fruit of the Spirit demonstrates maturity, while spiritual gifts are given for ministry.

How can comparison, pride, or insecurity keep us from faithfully using our gifts?

What does healthy diversity of gifts contribute to the life of a church?

The sermon presents two primary positions concerning the continuation of revelatory gifts: cessationism, which teaches that certain revelatory gifts ceased with the apostolic age, and continuationism, which teaches that these gifts continue until Christ's return. The sermon takes the continuationist position while emphasizing that both perspectives affirm the Holy Spirit's ongoing work and the importance of using spiritual gifts for God's glory and the good of others.

Why is it important for Christians to pursue biblical understanding of spiritual gifts even when there has been abuse or misunderstanding surrounding them?

APPLICATION

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

Do you have a good understanding of how God has gifted you? If not, what could you do to discover your gifts?

Are you currently using your spiritual gifts to serve others? Why or why not?

Is there a gift God has given you that you have been hesitant to use?

How might pride, insecurity, fear, or busyness be keeping you from deploying your gifts?

Who in your church could benefit from you faithfully using the gifts God has given you?

What is one practical step you can take to discover, develop, or deploy your spiritual gifts this week?

PRAYER

Close in prayer, thanking God that He has given every believer the Holy Spirit and graciously equipped His people with spiritual gifts. Ask Him to help us discover the gifts He has given us, develop them faithfully, and deploy them for the good of others. Pray that we would not bury our gifts, compare ourselves with others, or use our gifts for personal recognition. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower our church to serve, build one another up, proclaim the gospel, and display the glory of God.

COMMENTARY

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-11 — THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Paul teaches that spiritual gifts are given by the Holy Spirit. There are many different gifts, ministries, and activities, but they all come from the same God. The Spirit distributes gifts to individual believers according to His sovereign will.

EVERY BELIEVER IS GIFTED

The sermon emphasizes that spiritual gifts are not reserved for a select few. Every believer receives spiritual gifting from the Holy Spirit. Spiritual gifts are distinct from natural talents and abilities because they are supernatural enablements given by the Spirit for particular tasks and ministry.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE FOR MINISTRY

Spiritual gifts are given for the benefit of others. They are meant to serve one another and build up the body of Christ. The sermon summarizes the responsibility of every believer in three words: discover, develop, and deploy your spiritual gifts.

GIFTS DO NOT EQUAL MATURITY

The presence of spiritual gifts does not automatically indicate spiritual maturity. The Corinthian church possessed an abundance of spiritual gifts while simultaneously struggling with significant spiritual immaturity. The sermon distinguishes between gifts, which are given for ministry, and the fruit of the Spirit, which demonstrates spiritual maturity.

THE VARIETY OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Scripture presents a variety of spiritual gifts, including gifts related to revelation, evangelism, shepherding, teaching, exhortation, serving, mercy, giving, leadership, organization, and hospitality. No single biblical list is presented as exhaustive, and no one believer possesses every gift.

CESSATIONISM AND CONTINUATIONISM

The sermon presents cessationism and continuationism as two positions concerning the continuation of revelatory gifts. Cessationists believe certain revelatory gifts ceased with the apostolic age, while continuationists believe the gifts continue until Christ returns. The

sermon takes the continuationist position while acknowledging that both perspectives affirm the Holy Spirit's active work today.

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S SOVEREIGNTY

Ultimately, the Holy Spirit decides how spiritual gifts are distributed. Believers do not earn or control their gifts. At the same time, Paul encourages Christians to earnestly desire spiritual gifts. We pursue gifts not for personal recognition, but for God's glory and the good of others.