



Grantham
Church
BRETHREN IN CHRIST

CHARISMATA

a series on spiritual gifts



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♦ WHAT IS CHARISMATA? ♦

Charismata is the plural of the Greek word *charisma*, which literally means “*a gift of grace*” or “*favor freely given*”.

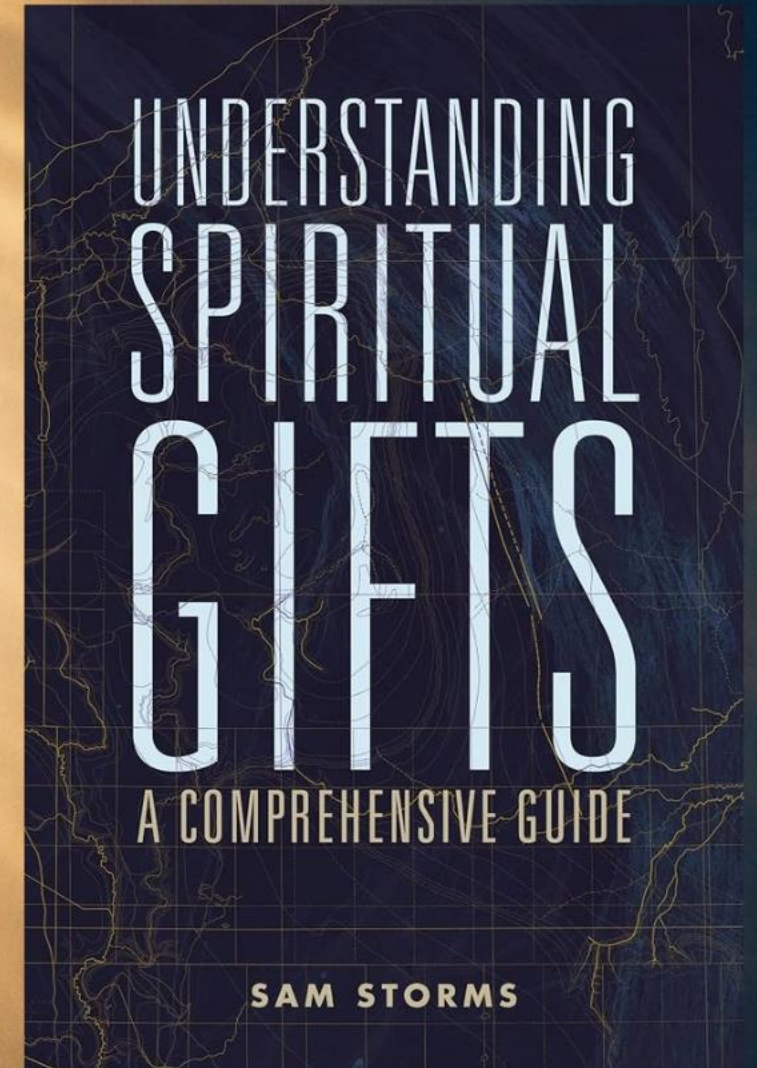
Derived from the root word *charis* (meaning grace), these terms represent *unmerited, supernatural abilities or blessings* bestowed by the Holy Spirit to benefit the Christian community.



What is a spiritual gift?

“A **spiritual gift** is when the Holy Spirit manifests his presence and imparts his power into and through individual believers to enable them to exceed the limitations of their finite humanity so that they might faithfully and effectively fulfill certain ministry tasks for the building up of the body of Christ.”

Sam Storms, *Understanding Spiritual Gifts* (pg.20)





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Equipping the Saints (2 of 5)



SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 4:1-16





A RON HOWARD FILM

APOLLO 13

Ephesians 4:11-13 NLT

11 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: **the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.**

12 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. **13** This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.



APOSTLES

“Those who pioneer God’s mission.”



PRIMARY FUNCTION:

plant churches, start new ministries,
cast vision, cross boundaries, lay foundations



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

The Twelve, Paul, Barnabas, James (the Lord’s brother),
Andronicus and Junia (Rom. 16:7)



MODERN EXPRESSION:

church planters, mission pioneers,
movement leaders, entrepreneurs



QUESTION:

Who starts what doesn’t yet exist?



PROPHETS

“Those who faithfully speak God’s truth.”



PRIMARY FUNCTION:

call God’s people back to faithfulness,
encourage, strengthen, comfort, offer Spirit-led discernment



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

Agabus, Barnabas, Judas Barsabbus,
Silas, Philipp’s four daughters



MODERN EXPRESSION:

teachers, preachers, pastoral prophets,
encouragers, spiritual discerners



QUESTION:

**Who helps the Church hear what God is saying
today through Scripture and the Spirit?**



EVANGELISTS

“Those who naturally bring people to Jesus.”



PRIMARY FUNCTION:

proclaim the gospel, lead people to faith in Christ, and connect them to the Church



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

Philip, Paul, Timothy, Barnabas, John Mark, Silas



MODERN EXPRESSION:

active witnesses who share the gospel clearly, inspire others to evangelize, and help the Church keep its outward focus



QUESTION:

Who reminds us that God loves lost people?



PASTORS

“Those who shepherd God’s people.”



PRIMARY FUNCTION:

to lead or “shepherd” others through Biblical/theological instruction, pastoral care, and spiritual direction



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

James, Timothy, Titus, Epaphrus, Priscilla and Aquila



MODERN EXPRESSION:

pastors, elders, bishops, small group leaders, leaders of organizations



QUESTION:

Who helps God’s people flourish?



TEACHERS

“Those who explain God’s Word faithfully.”



PRIMARY FUNCTION:

to clarify truth, form disciples,
guard sound doctrine, and help
believers mature in their faith



BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

Priscilla, Barnabas, Paul, Apollos,
Simeon, Lucius, Manaen



MODERN EXPRESSION:

teaching pastors, teaching elders,
Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders,
professors, school teachers, etc.



QUESTION:

Who helps us understand the Bible?

Ephesians 4:11-13 NLT

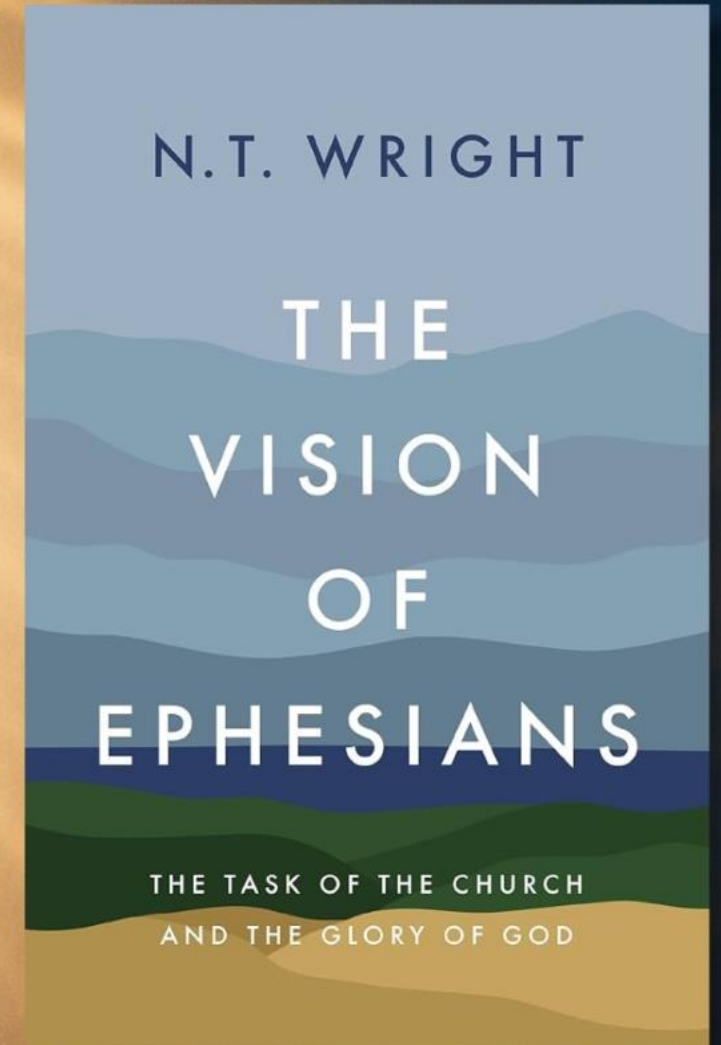
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“

All God's people are called to serve. The kingdom of God is not a cruise liner, with a few crew members doing all the work and lots of passengers enjoying a holiday with nothing to do. It is a working ship; everybody on board has a job, and some people have the task of organizing and coordinating it all. But the overall point is unity and maturity.”

N.T. Wright, *The Vision of Ephesians: The Task of the Church and the Glory of God*, pg. 89



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Three Main Takeaways

1. Jesus Gives Leaders to Equip the Church

Christ gives apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to the Church not as positions of prestige, but as gifts of grace that prepare God's people to serve and grow together in faith.

Big Idea: *The five-fold ministry exists not to elevate a few leaders, but to equip every believer for ministry in and outside the church.*

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Three Main Takeaways

2. Ministry Belongs to the Whole Church

According to Ephesians 4:12, the work of ministry is not reserved for pastors or church staff. Every follower of Jesus has a role to play in building up the Body of Christ and participating in God's mission.

Big Idea: *The Church is healthiest when every disciple is serving out of their giftedness, not just a handful of leaders and members.*

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Three Main Takeaways

3. The Goal of Charismata is Christ-Like Maturity

Jesus gives spiritual gifts for ministry so that the Church will grow in unity, deepen its knowledge and experience of Christ, and become spiritually mature. The measure of a healthy church is not the popularity of its leaders, but the maturity and oneness of its people.

Big Idea: *Healthy leaders don't create followers—they equip disciples who become more like Jesus and use their gifts to bless others.*

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Questions for reflection and response:

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Equipping the Saints (2 of 5)

Questions for reflection and response:

1. As I reflect on the “five-fold ministry” (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher), how have I seen these gifts used to grow and equip the saints, including myself?



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1. As I reflect on the “five-fold ministry” (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher), how have I seen these gifts used to grow and equip the saints, including myself?
2. Are there ministry gifts in Eph. 4:11 that we appear to be lacking at Grantham that God is inviting us to cultivate?

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Questions for reflection and response:

1. As I reflect on the “five-fold ministry” (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher), how have I seen these gifts used to grow and equip the saints, including myself?
2. Are there ministry gifts in Eph. 4:11 that we appear to be lacking at Grantham that God is inviting us to cultivate?
3. How is Jesus inviting me to be more equipped by mature leaders, and/or how is he inviting me to equip others?



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