**Stir up the gift: part 1**

*6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*

II Timothy 1:6-7

*Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.*

I Corinthians 14:1

*10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

I Peter 4:10-11

*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;*

Romans 12:6

I. What is a Spiritual Gift?

A. A Spiritual Gift is any ability that is empowered by the Holy Spirit and used in any ministry on behalf of God’s people.

B. Spiritual Gifts are given to equip God’s people to carry out Christ’s ministry until he returns.
(I Corinthians 1:7)

*Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed.*

II. How many Gifts are there?

A. Peter reduces all Gifts to two categories, “Whoever speaks,” and “Whoever renders service.”
(I Peter 4:11)

*If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

B. A threefold model can also be used, of Prophet, Priest, and King.

\* Prophet - Teaching, encouraging, rebuking, exhorting, preaching, and proclaiming.

\* Priest - Showing mercy, care for those in need, intercession before God, issuing in: healing, miracles, and faith

\* King - Administration, government, order in the church,

C. Another threefold gift model is:

\* Knowledge - Discerning of spirits, word of wisdom, word of knowledge.

\* Power - Healing, miracles, and faith.

\* Speech - Tongues, interpretation, and prophecy.

III. First we must know the gifts. (I Corinthians 12:1)

*Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.*

(Romans 12:6-8,13)

*6 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; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 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. ... 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

A. Prophecy (forth-telling) Spirit-prompted speech for edification.

B. Service/Helps - Ability to do what it takes to make ministry happen.

C. Teaching - To cause others to learn God’s truth and apply it.

D. Exhortation - Spirit-inspired counsel that is effective.

E. Giving - Contributing resources above what is normally required.

F. Leadership - Sets direction and gets others to follow together.

G. Mercy - Compassionately coming to the aid of those who need it.

H. Hospitality - Ability to provide welcoming care to make people feel at home.

(I Peter 4:9)

*Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

(Romans 12:13)

*Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

I. Administration - Understanding goals of a task and executing plans to accomplish them.
(I Corinthians 12:28)

*And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.*

\* Your Walk motivates you for ministry.

\* Your Spiritual Gifts enable you for ministry.

\* Your Passions give focus to ministry.

\* Your Personality expresses itself in ministry.

\* Your Experiences help you develop for ministry.