FAN INTO FLAME THE GIFTS OF GOD
(Romans 12:6-8)

I. OPEN UP THE GIFTS YOU’VE BEEN GIVEN

A. Everyone has been given gifts by God. (Rom. 12:6)
   1. Gifts are not a proof of character, or a reward for being good or "being spiritual." Spiritual gifts are not a sign of maturity. The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23) and character need to be developed. Both are necessary.
   2. Spiritual gifts are not natural talents or temperaments.
   3. The spiritual gift are given by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to produce spiritual fruit.
   4. God gives to each believer a measure of faith to operate in the gifts. (Rom. 12:3)

B. There are 7 gifts listed here in Rom. 12. These are sometimes referred to as ‘Creation Gifts” or “Motivational gifts” from the Father. 1 Cor. 12 parallel passage lists the Gifts of the Spirit. These categories are not meant to limit you but to give you a starting point to begin to move in God’s grace to serve others.
   - **Prophecy** - Perceiving the heart and mind of God and communicating it to others
   - **Serving** – Helping others and meeting their needs.
   - **Teaching** – Communicating God’s truth to help others draw near to God.
   - **Encouraging** – Stirring up others to live a victorious life.
   - **Giving** - Giving of resources to benefit others and to advance the Gospel.
   - **Leadership** - Organizing and directing others with a servant-heart.
   - **Mercy** - Showing compassion and caring for those in need.
Q: Which gifts do I have?

1. As you begin to serve others in love, you will naturally discover your spiritual gifts. 
   *Ask yourself: Which ones resonate with me and energize me? Observe when you’ve been effective in serving others. Start there. Experiment and branch out.*

2. Ask others around you.

3. Take a spiritual gifts inventory.

II. APPRECIATE THE DIVERSITY OF GOD’S GIFTS

Q: What is the best gift? If you could only have one, which is the one to have?

1. The priority of love (Rom. 12; 1 Cor. 13)

2. Don’t try to be someone else (Rom. 12:3), but seek to grow to your full potential in Christ.

B. The purpose of the gift of prophesy is a good summary of generally what the purpose of the spiritual gifts are (1 Cor. 14:3). Gifts are given for the purpose of: building up, stirring up, and comforting others.

III. USE YOUR GIFTS TO SERVE OTHERS

Stir them up. They’re not meant to lie dormant. (Rom. 12:6-8; 2 Tim. 1:6)

Q: Where/when do I use my spiritual gifts?

1. Use your spiritual gifts in the church body.

2. Use your spiritual gifts in your sphere of life.

   Q: In the Bible, where did Jesus and His followers do most of the miracles?

3. Freely you’ve received. Freely give.
SCORING THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT

Follow the directions and you will be able to self-score your assessment. Total each set across by using the following values.

**QUITE OFTEN = 4  OFTEN = 3  OCCASIONALLY = 1  ALMOST NEVER = 0**

<table>
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<th>Questions</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
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**MY TOP THREE GIFTS FROM THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT**

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These top three values can be a starting place to discovering your unique spiritual "gift mix." Don't use the above to limit what ministry God desires to do through you. God has created you as a uniquely gifted individual and Holy Spirit will lead you along the pathway of ministry that He has for you. Freely you've received – freely give!