

The Person & Work of the Holy Spirit

This week in our continuing study of the spiritual gifts we look at a couple of gifts that may surprise you—gifts that many do not realize are spiritual in nature but are in fact given by the Holy Spirit to bless the saints.

1) The gift of exhortation

*“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them... he who exhorts, in **exhortation**; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”*

Romans 12:6 & 8

Using something like BlueLetter Bible look up the word *exhortation* and record what the word means:

- 2) Read Acts 9:26-28; how did the gift of exhortation work in the life of Barnabas (whose name literally means, “son of encouragement”)?
- 3) Read Acts 14:21-22; how was the gift of exhortation used in Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch?
- 4) Why is the gift of exhortation so important in the life of Christians today?
- 5) Think back to the example in Acts 9:26-28; what did the gift of exhortation move Barnabas to do that no one else in the church was willing to do? What does that reveal about the gift of exhortation?

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6) The gift of giving

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them... he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."

ROMANS 12:6 & 8

What do you think makes the *spiritual* gift of giving different than the *regular* giving we all participate in such as when we give our tithes?

7) Who is a person in the Bible that demonstrated they had the gift of giving and what did they give?

8) Does a person with the gift of giving need to be wealthy? Why or why not?

9) Have you ever been the recipient of the gift of giving? How did the gift help you and how did you feel about receiving the gift?

10) Do you find it joyful or stressful to give sacrificially?