

Gift of Teaching - Ministry of Teaching

The Holy Spirit's Role in Teaching
The Human Role in Teaching the Bible

The gift of teaching comes in 2 flavors

1. The person *[with a gift]* is a gift to the local church.
I Corinthians 12: 18 ff, 28
Eph 4.11
2. The Holy Spirit divinely chooses whom to empower with any of the many gifts to the Church.

The gift of teaching is one of more than a dozen jobs given to individuals. We are aware of at least five lists which identify particular gifts [*charis* = grace, Greek]

Rom 12.3-8
I Corinthians 12.4-12
I Corinthians 12.18-28
Eph 4.10-13
I Peter 4.10,11

- 1st Make a list of the gifts from the verses above.
- 2nd Pick the one that appeals to you most. *This doesn't mean you have it, but I'm positive you will enjoy your niche in the church as you look for ways to be useful in the Body.*
- 3rd Try it out every chance you get for 6 months.
- 4th Notice whether others seem to enjoy having you involved, confirmation. *Not that much satisfaction? Choose another and spend 6 months more.*

It's not a foolproof system, but it seems to help others.

You don't have to identify your gift, just use it! Make yourself useful in the church and enjoy whatever the task brings.

If you can't name it, assume that you have the gift of "helps" [*Phil's opinion is that 50% of everybody in the church has the gift of helps or serving.*]

None of the lists are the same. Peter just lumps them all in two groups: talking and doing. There is not a definitive list. None are clearly defined except the interpretation of tongues. I'm sure you've heard that there are questionnaires you can take. Yes, I've even written my own checklist, but if you have the gift of teaching you probably love to see people learn. You may be very poor and yet get an absolute thrill out of giving the "widow's mite."

Do I have to have the gift of teaching to teach a Bible study or Sunday School?
Relation to filling of the Spirit or carnality?
Does one's gift ever change?
Do you have to prepare less if you have the gift?
How do we find out if we have the gift of teaching?
How valid are the "gift analysis" questionnaires?
How does the Holy Spirit work through one's gift?
How does creativity factor in?
How is the gift related to intelligence, education, Bible education or Bible knowledge?
How does church-mandated curriculum factor into the teacher's "leading" in the class?
How is one's gift developed?
What has happened when I work so diligently on a lesson [*and yielded to the Spirit*] and it "flops?"