

REGIFTING

HOW GOD WORKS THROUGH US TODAY

Part 1: The Reason For Regifting

Part 2: *The Gift of the Gospel*

Part 3: *Receiving and Giving Guidance*

APPETIZER: The Goal of Regifting

The Church is more like a choir than a rock band.

Each revival in history has been the result of a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit, usually accompanied by experiences or commitments that threatened the comfortable status quo of religious institutions of the day.
~ Crain S. Keener, Gift Giver: The Holy Spirit for Today

Scriptural Gift Lists (illustrative, not exhaustive)...

1. **Romans 12:6-8** – prophecy; serving; teaching; encouraging; giving; leadership; mercy
2. **1 Corinthians 12:4-11** – wisdom; knowledge; faith; healing; miracles; prophecy; discerning spirits; tongues (or languages); interpretation of tongues (or translation of languages)
3. **1 Corinthians 12:28** – apostles; prophets; teachers; miracles; healing; helping; administration; tongues (or languages)
4. **Ephesians 4:11** – apostles; prophets; evangelists; pastor-teachers
5. **1 Peter 4:9-11** – hospitality; speaking; service
6. **1 Corinthians 7:7** – marriage; singleness
7. **Exodus 28:3, 31:1-6, & 36:1-2** - craftsmanship, or artistic ability
8. **1 Corinthians 14:26** – music?

DINE IN: Identifying Our Gifts

Romans 12:3-8

I have a hard time believing that someone who refuses to forgive and show mercy is truly a Christian. To be a Christian is to have experienced God's mercy so intimately that we see everything else differently.
~ Dr. Van Johnson, Pentecostal Scholar

LESSON 1: Each of us has a gift to be regifted.

1 Peter 4:10-11; Proverbs 22:6

LESSON 2: Spiritual gifts are distributed among us for the sake of our unity.

Romans 12 Gifts...

1. **PROPHECY** (*prophéteia*): Perceiving and communicating God's will; may involve divinely-empowered *forthtelling* (asserting the mind of God) or *foretelling* (prediction).
2. **SERVING** (*diakonia*): Lit. a table waiter; humbly doing, not just thinking, feeling, or discussing; a deacon; a "doer".
3. **TEACHING** (*didaskó*): Lit., to cause to learn; studying, organizing, and helping others learn truth.
4. **ENCOURAGING** (*parakaleó*): Coming alongside to build up, defend, comfort; like the Holy Spirit.
5. **GIVING** (*metadidóm*): Strategic engagement with money and possessions for Kingdom growth.
6. **LEADERSHIP** (*proistemi*): Lit., to stand before; being in front to move people forward.
7. **MERCY** (*eleeó*): Wired for compassion and care.

LESSON 3: If we don't regift what God gives us, we will stop growing. (e.g. the Sea of Galilee VS the Dead Sea).

1 Timothy 4:14

TAKE OUT: Knowing How To Serve

TAKE OUT #1:

Pay attention to others' gifts as well as your own. Knowing your gift will show you *what* to do. Knowing others' gifts will show you *how* to do it, in partnership alongside them. *Are you growing in community?*

TAKE OUT #2:

Never allow awareness of your gift to prevent you from serving where needed, especially in the short term. We will all be called upon to serve in every area at some point, even when we are especially equipped in one or a few areas. *Are you open to serving where needed?*

TAKE OUT #3:

Without the Holy Spirit's presence and guidance, our gifts will lie dormant like unwatered seeds. *Are you filled with the Spirit?*

NEXT WEEK: Part 2 – The Gift of the Gospel

Home Church Questions

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Have you ever regifted? Have you ever received what you suspect is a regift?
2. What about this short series most inspires, excites, bothers, or bores you?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

3. Read **Romans 12:1-10**
 - a. What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why?
 - b. What does it mean to offer our bodies (not just our minds or hearts) as a sacrifice? (Also see **Hebrews 13:16**.)
 - c. What do you think are the dangers of thinking of yourself more highly than you ought? List some ways that an inflated ego does damage to the self and others.
 - d. How do **verses 4-5** set the church up for the appreciation and celebration of diversity?
 - e. Four of the seven gifts are given qualifiers: prophesy according to your faith, give generously, lead diligently (with zeal or haste), and show mercy cheerfully. Why these qualifiers? What is each one's meaning and purpose?
 - f. Which gift do you think you would be voted most likely to have? Least likely?
 - g. Recall **verses 9-10**. In what situations might hate be an expression of love? Discuss examples.

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. What gifts do you see in each other? How do you plan to regift those gifts this week? Pray for the Holy Spirit to continue to empower each of you to build up the church through your giftings.

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Quotes

Welcome to the start of our three-week series on giving away what God has given us. Today's message: The Reason for Regifting.

Every Christian has a gift, and therefore, a responsibility.
~ John Stott

When we minister to others through our gifts, we are tapping into the inexhaustible energy of God. When we exercise our gifts, the Holy Spirit flows through us like at no other time.
~ Charles Stanley

The Holy Spirit is not just a doctrine, an idea, or an experience to be tagged onto other church teachings. He is the God who has invaded our lives with his transforming grace.
~ Craig S. Keener

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. This is why we have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.
~ The Apostle Paul

As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.
~ Jesus