

## **10 CHARACTERISTICS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

1. Everyone has at least one spiritual gift.
2. No one has all of them, not even most of them.
3. Normally you will have one, maybe two, possibly even three that are primary. You will also have several others that are secondary.
4. Spiritual gifts first need to be discovered. Then they need to be developed, just like an athlete or musician needs to develop their talents.
5. Some spiritual gifts may be given at baptism and will follow you throughout your life (absolute gifts).
6. Other spiritual gifts are given because of a need at a particular time and that may last only as long as the need exists (relative or circumstantial gifts).
7. Gifts may be sought after, but require a need in the community of faith (desired gifts).
8. Spiritual gifts are not really gifts. They are more like endowments or loans.
9. Gifts are given not to the individual, but to the church *through* the individual. They are resources given by God to the people of God in order to accomplish what God wants accomplished in the world.
10. Spiritual Gifts are as natural as breathing to the one who possesses them. But they might appear awesome to others.

## **USES OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

1. For mutual support (Romans 12.3; 1 Corinthians 12.25)
2. For the common good (1 Corinthians 12.7)
3. For the building up of the body of Christ (Ephesians 4.12b)
4. For the work of ministry (Ephesians 4.12a)  
[*Reconciliation; healing; truth; love; justice; relationship with God and with neighbors*]