**[Acts 1:8](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+1:8&version=AMP)**

But you will receive power *and* ability when **the** **Holy Spirit** comes upon you; and you will be My witnesses [to tell people about Me] both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and even to **the** ends of **the** earth.”

Paraclete (Gr. παράκλητος, Lat. paracletus) **means** advocate or helper. In Christianity, the term paraclete most commonly refers to the Holy Spirit.

A Spiritual Gift is a special divine empowerment bestowed on each believer by the Holy Spirit to accomplish a given ministry God's way according to His grace and discernment to be used within the context of the Body of Christ.

**Greek** χάρισμα (khárisma), which **means**"favor freely given" or "gift of grace". The term and its plural χαρίσματα (charismata) derive from χάρις (**charis**), which **means** "grace".

Talents are natural abilities that seem to be hereditary, to run in the genes, or to have been learned through conditioning from the environment in which we lived or through training we have received. Spiritual gifts, on the other hand, are an empowerment of supernatural origin, not a result of genetics, training, or conditioning.

**4**For just as in one [physical] body we have many parts, and these parts do not all have the same function *or* special use, **5**so we, who are many, are [nevertheless just] one body in Christ, and individually [we are] parts one of another [mutually dependent on each other].

**7**if service, in the act of serving;

(Greek Word: diakonia - deacon, attendant 'diako'=to run errands)

General Characteristics

A server’s **basic motivational drive is to demonstrate love by meeting practical needs**. A server is diligent and willing to sacrifice time and energy in order to complete a task.

who teaches, in the act of teaching

The gift of teaching involves the analysis and proclamation of the Word of God, explaining the meaning, context, and application to the hearer’s life. The gifted teacher is one who has the unique ability to clearly instruct and communicate knowledge, specifically the doctrines of the faith and truths of the Bible.

**8**or he who encourages, in the act of encouragement

to come along side of someone with words of encouragement, comfort, consolation, and counsel to help them be all God wants them to be (Greek Word: paraklesis - calling to one's side)

he who gives, with generosity;

to share what material resources you have with liberality and cheerfulness without thought of return

The Greek word *Metadidomi* means to give over, to share, to give to, to impart

he who leads, with diligence;

to stand before the people in such a way as to attend to the direction of the body with such care and diligence so as to motivate others to get involved in the accomplishment of these goals

The goal of the gifted leader is to guard and guide those he leads “until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God

he who shows mercy [in caring for others], with cheerfulness.

to be sensitive toward those who are suffering, whether physically, mentally, or emotionally, so as to feel genuine sympathy with their misery, speaking words of compassion but moreso caring for them with deeds of love to help alleviate their distress

He Himself appointed some as apostles [special messengers, representatives]

to be sent forth to new frontiers with the gospel, providing leadership over church bodies and maintaining authority over spiritual matters pertaining to the church (Greek Word: apostolos - 'apo'=from 'stello'=send; one sent forth)

The mission for those with the gift of apostleship today is to plant new ministries and churches, go into places where the Gospel is not preached, reach across cultures to establish churches in challenging environments

some as evangelists [who spread the good news of salvation]

to be a messenger of the good news of the Gospel (Greek Word: euaggelistes - preacher of gospel; eu=well, angelos=message - messenger of good)

Evangelists are given the unique ability by the Holy Spirit to clearly and effectively communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others.  They are burdened in their hearts for the lost and will go out of their way to share the truth with them.  Evangelists are able to overcome the normal fear of rejection and engage non-believers in meaningful conversations about Jesus.

and some as pastors and teachers [to shepherd and guide and instruct],

Therefore, we are actually discussing the GIFT of shepherding, not the POSITION of pastor.

to be responsible for spiritually caring for, protecting, guiding, and feeding a group of believers entrusted to one's care