**3. Discerning of Spirits:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human, or Satanic."  
      This gift is a practical gift. Christians with this gift can recognize the true motives of people and also recognize when a person is distorting the truth or communicating error. This person often can recognize when Satan or other evil spirits are at work in a given person or situation. *Scriptures: Matthew 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11; 16:16-18; 17:11-16; 1 Corinthians 12:10; Hebrews 5:14; 1 John 4:1-6.*

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| **6. Exhortation:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement, and counsel to other members of the Body in such a way that they feel helped and healed."       This gift is a communication gift. This gift is often called "encouragement," but exhortation is used here because the gift is not limited to the connotations that the name "encouragement" implies. Those who use this gift within a teaching or ministry situation are often driven to give practical application to their insights. Often, those gifted in this gift desire step-by-step plans of action to help others mature in Christ. Exhorters often find it natural to discover insights from personal experience when validated and amplified in Scripture. *Scripture: Luke 3:16-18; Acts 11:23; 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:12; 5:1; Hebrews 10:25.*       **Note:** *Exhortation, Prophecy*, and *Teaching* are considered the communication gifts. The distinctions for each gift are often confused. Often, gifted communicators have a mix of these gifts. *Exhortation* focuses on personal and practical application of the message or truth being communicated. *Prophecy* focuses purely on the message or truth to be communicated. *Teaching* focuses on bringing thorough or adequate understanding of the message or truth being communicated |
|  | **7. Faith:** "The special ability that God gives certain members of the Body of Christ to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for His work."       This gift is a practical gift. Those with this gift often scare other people with their confidence. People with this gift are often very irritated by criticism, as they consider it to be criticism against God and His will. Probably the biggest danger for those with this gift is that they often try to project their gift onto other people. *Scriptures: Acts 11:22-24; 27:21-25; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11.* |

**9. Healing:** The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom God cures illness and restores health apart from the use of natural means.  
      This gift is a sign gift. Many attribute the occurrence of supernatural healing to a certain level of faith. Those who have this gift must use it knowing that the healing is God’s will, and therefore miraculous healing will always occur. Those with this gift recognize that God does not use medical science to bring about healing in a person, doctors and medicine are for the doubter. Miraculous healing will occur to bring the greatest glory to God and effectively grow His church. *Scripture: Acts 3:1-10; 5:12-16; 9:32-35; 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28.*  
      **Note on *Healing* and *Miracles*:** The gifts of *healing* and *miracles* are often combined, since they both involve the occurrence of events beyond natural means. However, one is focused on the *healing* of the human body, while the other is focused on other *miraculous* events that alter the ordinary course of nature. These may in fact be two separate manifestations of the same gift.

## Healing

Healing (Sign Gift) - The special ability God gives to some to serve as a human instrument through whom it pleases Him to cure illness and restore health (physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually) apart from the use of natural means.   
The divine enablement to be God's means for restoring people to wholeness.   
People with this gift:   
- demonstrate the power of God   
- bring restoration to the sick and diseased   
- authenticate a message from God through healing   
- use it as an opportunity to communicate a Biblical truth and to see God glorified   
- pray, touch, or speak words that miraculously bring healing to one's body.   
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[Acts 3:1-10](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+3%3A1-10)   
[Acts 14:8-10](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+14%3A8-10)   
[James 5:14-16](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JAS+5%3A14-16)   
[Luke 9:1-2](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+9%3A1-2)

**17. Miracles:** The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom God performs powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature.  
      This gift is a sign gift. This gift is manifested through the supernatural intervention by God into specific circumstances in order to change the perceived natural outcome. Those with this gift must recognize that God only causes miracles to happen in order to bring the greatest glory to himself. *Scriptures: Acts 9:36-42; 19:11-20; 20:7-12; Romans 15:17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; 12:10, 28; 2 Corinthians 12:12.*  
      **Note on *Healing* and *Miracles*:** The gifts of *healing* and *miracles* are often combined, since they both involve the occurrence of events beyond natural means. However, one is focused on the *healing* of the human body, while the other is focused on other *miraculous* events that alter the ordinary course of nature. These may in fact be two separate manifestations of the same gift.  
      **Note on Extraordinary Gifts:** Many in contemporary Christian life have argued that the extraordinary gifts have passed with the offices they are often associated with in Scripture. This presents problems for those who use the New Testament as their guide. The passage they most commonly point to in order to support their view is 1 Corinthians 13:8, however a proper understanding of this passage points to a different interpretation. At Lakeview, we do not want to put God in a box, therefore we give Him the freedom to use these gifts as He chooses, however, we also want to emphasize that it is God who chooses how the gifts are used, and under what circumstances.

## Miracles

Miracles (Sign Gift) - The special ability God gives to some to serve as a human intermediary through whom He pleases to perform acts of supernatural power that are recognized by others to have altered the ordinary course of nature and authenticated the divine commission.   
  
People with this gift:   
- speak God's truth and may have it authenticated by an accompanying miracle   
- express confidence in God's faithfulness and ability to manifest Christ's presence   
- bring the ministry and message of Jesus Christ with power   
- claim God to be the source of miracles and glorify the Lord   
- represent Christ and through this gift, point people to a relationship with Christ.   
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[Mark 16:17-18](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MARK+16%3A17-18)   
[Acts 9:36-42](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+9%3A36-42)   
[Acts 20:9-12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+20%3A9-12)   
[Hebrews 2:4](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=HEB+2%3A4)   
[Romans 15:17-19](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+15%3A17-19)   
[Acts 8:13](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+8%3A13)   
[Acts 19:11-12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+19%3A11-12)

**10. Helps:** The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to invest the talents they have in the life and ministry of other members of the Body, thus enabling those others to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts.  
      This gift is a practical gift. People with this gift often enjoy doing routine tasks in order to free others to do the ministry God has called them to do. People with this gift are often not looking for recognition for the work they do. *Scriptures: Mark 15:40-41; Luke 8:2-3; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Timothy 1:16-18.*  
      **Note:** The gifts of *Helps*, *Mercy*, and *Service* are often confused. *Helps* focuses on Christian works and freeing others to accomplish their God-given ministries. *Mercy* focuses on people in distress and reflects God’s love and compassion. *Service* focuses on accomplishing little tasks that may otherwise go undone in order to move the greater goal of the ministry or church toward completion.

**11. Hospitality:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging."  
      This gift is a practical gift. Those with this gift have an acute awareness of visitors and have a desire to make all people feel welcome. People with this gift enjoy visitors in their home, and are usually not bothered if someone stops by and their home is not spotless. Those with this gift are a key to helping new people become a part of the group. *Scriptures: Acts 16:14-15; Romans 12:9-13; 16:23; Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9.*

**20. Service:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God’s work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results."  
      This gift is a practical gift. Those with the gift of service enjoy doing routine tasks around the church regardless of how they effect others. Those with this gift enjoy menial tasks and do them cheerfully. Service-oriented people would rather take orders than give them. *Scripture: John 12:26; Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:6-7; Galatians 6:2, 9-10; 2 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14.*  
      **Note:** The gifts of *Helps*, *Mercy*, and *Service* are often confused. *Helps* focuses on Christian works and freeing others to accomplish their God-given ministries. *Mercy* focuses on people in distress and reflects God’s love and compassion. *Service* focuses on accomplishing little tasks that may otherwise go undone in order to move the greater goal of the ministry or church toward completion.

## Helps / Serving

Helps / Serving (Serving Gift) - The gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. The special ability God gives to some to serve the church in a supporting roll or to invest their talents in the life and ministry of other members of the body enabling them to increase their effectiveness.   
  
The divine enablement to accomplish practical and necessary tasks which free-up, support, and meet the needs of others.   
  
People with this gift:   
- serve behind the scenes whenever needed to support the gifts and ministries of others (without having to be asked)   
- see the tangible and practical things to be done and enjoy doing them   
- sense God's purpose and pleasure in meeting every day responsibilities   
- attach spiritual value to practical service   
- enjoy knowing that they are freeing up others to do what God has called them to do.   
- would rather do a job than find someone else to do it.   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[Romans 16:1-2](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+16%3A1-2)   
[Acts 9:36](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+9%3A36)   
[Mark 15:40-41](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MAR+15%3A40-41)   
[Galatians 6:2](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=GAL+6%3A2)   
[Romans 12:6-8](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+12%3A6-8)   
[1 Peter 4:11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1PET+4%3A11)   
[Philippians 2:19-23](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PHIL+2%3A19-23)   
[Luke 22:24-27](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+22%3A24-27)   
[John 13:14](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JOHN+13%3A14)

## Hospitality

Hospitality (Serving Gift) - The special ability God gives to some to provide an open home and warm welcome to those in need of food, lodging, and fellowship. It involves a readiness to invite strangers to your home (or church) for the sake of the Gospel.   
  
The divine enablement to care for people by providing fellowship, food, and shelter.   
  
People with this gift:   
- provide an environment where people feel valued and cared for   
- meet new people and help them to feel welcomed   
- create a safe and comfortable setting where relationships can develop   
- seek ways to connect people together into meaningful relationships   
- set people at ease in unfamiliar surroundings.   
  
[1 Peter 4:9-10](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1PET+4%3A9-10)   
[Romans 12:9-13](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+12%3A9-13)   
[Acts 16:14-15](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACT+16%3A14-15)   
[Luke 10:38](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+10%3A38)   
[Hebrews 13:1-2](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=HEB+13%3A1-2)

**16. Mercy:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals (both Christian and non-Christian) who suffer from distressing physical, mental, or emotional problems, and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ’s love and alleviate the suffering."  
      This gift is a practical gift. Those with this gift find themselves visiting and assisting those in need, and often feel the pain of the person they are helping within themself. People with this gift find it extremely difficult not to help those who seem less fortunate than themself. Those with this gift generally enjoy helping those with physical or mental problems and do well in ministries involving visiting hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, and shut-ins. *Scriptures: Matthew 20:29-34; 25:24-40; Mark 9:41; Luke 10:33-35; Acts 11:28-30; 16:33-34; Romans 12:8; Jude 22-23.*  
      **Note:** The gifts of *Helps*, *Mercy*, and *Service* are often confused. *Helps* focuses on Christian works and freeing others to accomplish their God-given ministries. *Mercy* focuses on people in distress and reflects God’s love and compassion. *Service* focuses on accomplishing little tasks that may otherwise go undone in order to move the greater goal of the ministry or church toward completion.

## Mercy / Compassion

Mercy / Compassion (Serving Gift) - The special gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to feel exceptional empathy and compassion for those who are suffering (physically, mentally, or emotionally) so as to feel genuine sympathy for their misery, speaking words of compassion, but more so caring for them with acts of love that help alleviate their distress.   
  
The divine enablement to cheerfully and practically help those who are suffering or are in need by putting compassion into action.   
  
People with this gift:   
- focus upon alleviating the sources of pain or discomfort in suffering people   
- address the needs of the lonely and forgotten   
- express love, grace, and dignity to those facing hardships and crisis   
- serve in difficult or unsightly circumstances and do so cheerfully   
- concern themselves with individual or social issues that oppress people.   
[Romans 12:6-8](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+12%3A6-8)   
[Luke 7:12-15](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+7%3A12-15)   
[Luke 10:30-37](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+10%3A30-37)   
[Matthew 20:29-34](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MATT+20%3A29-34)   
[Matthew 25:34-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MATT+25%3A34-40)   
[Mark 9:41](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MARK+9%3A41)   
[Matthew 5:7](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MATT+5%3A7)

**13. Interpretation of Tongues:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to make known in the vernacular the message of one who speaks in tongues."  
      This gift is a sign gift. Due to the fact that God has chosen not to use the gift of *tongues* on a corporate level at Lakeview Baptist Church, the use of this gift is very limited. However, there are pockets of individuals and small groups at Lakeview where *tongues* is practiced. Those with this gift are used to bring the personal edification of tongues to a position where the message edifies the group in which the tongue was spoken. Those with this gift gain a sense of what God is trying to say when they hear a person speak in tongues. Should a person with this gift fail to interpret the tongue when it is spoken and they receive the interpretation through the Holy Spirit, they have done a great disservice to the person who spoke in tongues and to the group as the edification that God desires has not taken place. Often, the interpreter is also the person who has spoken in tongues. The interpretation of tongues is often closely related to the message given by an exhorter or a prophet. *Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10-30; 14:13-17, 26-28.*  
      **Note on *Tongues* and *Interpretation of Tongues*:** When used in a group setting, an interpretation must take place, or else the one speaking the tongue should remain silent. If a tongue is spoken without an interpretation, the speaker is edified. If the tongue is interpreted, it is for the edification of the body.

## Tongues (interpreting)

Tongues (interpreting) - The special ability God gives to some translate the message of one who speaks in tongues.   
  
If a tongue is spoken without an interpretation, the speaker is edified. If the tongue is interpreted, it is for the edification of the body.   
  
People with this gift:   
- express with an interpretation a word by the Spirit which edifies the Body   
- enable the gift of tongues to build up the church by interpreting God's message for the people.   
  
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[1 Corinthians 14:1-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A1-40)

## Tongues (speaking)

Tongues (speaking) - The special ability God gives to some to speak prayer or praise in a language they have never learned or to communicate a message from God to His people. The special ability God gives to some to speak in a language not previously learned so unbelievers can hear God's message in their own language.   
  
If a tongue is spoken without an interpretation, the speaker is edified. If the tongue is interpreted, it is for the edification of the body.   
  
People with this gift:   
- may receive a spontaneous message from God which is made known to His body through the gift of interpretation   
- communicate a message given by God for the church (if there is someone to interpret)   
- speak in a language they have never learned and do not understand   
- worship the Lord with unknown words too deep for the mind to comprehend   
- experience an intimacy with God which inspires them to serve and edify others   
- speak in tongues as a private prayer language   
- when used in a group setting, an interpretation must take place, or else the one speaking the tongue should remain silent.   
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[1 Corinthians 14:1-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A1-40)   
[Acts 2:1-12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+2%3A1-12)   
[Acts 10:44-46](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+10%3A44-46)   
[Acts 19:1-7](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+19%3A1-7)   
[Mark 16:17](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MARK+16%3A17)   
[Romans 8:26-27](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+8%3A26-27)   
[1 Corinthians 13:1](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+13%3A1)

**25. Wisdom:** The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to know how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the Body of Christ.  
      This gift is a practical gift. Those with this gift have an excellent ability to apply spiritual truth to everyday life. Often, people in the church naturally seek out people with this gift when they are facing complicated spiritual problems. When a person with this gift considers past experience, they realize that they often make good and correct decisions and judgements. *Scriptures: Proverbs 4:5-8; Acts 6:3, 10; 15:13-20; 20:20-21; Romans 12:17; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14; Colossians 1:28.*

## Wisdom

Wisdom (Speaking Gift) - The gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts, and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers. The ability to apply knowledge to life in such a way as to make spiritual truths quite relevant and practical in proper decision making and daily life situations.   
  
The special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to know the mind of the Holy Spirit in such a way as to receive insight into how knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the body of Christ.   
  
People with this gift:   
- focus on the unseen consequences in determining the next steps to take   
- receive an understanding of what is necessary to meet the needs of the body   
- provide divinely given solutions in the midst of conflict and confusion   
- hear the Spirit provide direction for God's best in a given situation   
- apply spiritual truth in specific and practical ways.   
  
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[James 3:13-18](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JAS+3%3A13-18)   
[2 Chronicles 1:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=2CHRON+1%3A7-11)   
[Acts 6:3-10](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+6%3A3-10)   
[1 Corinthians 2:6-13](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+2%3A6-13)   
[James 1:5-8](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JAS+1%3A5-8)   
[1 Kings 3:16-28](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1KIN+3%3A16-28)    

**14. Knowledge:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to discover, accumulate, analyze, and clarify information and ideas which are pertinent to the well-being of the Body."  
      This gift is a practical gift. Those with the gift of *knowledge* are at home in a book or studying. Those with this gift will often spend countless hours researching information. These people are interested in ideas and problem solving through gathering information and studying. Often, those with this gift have a low need for people. On rare occasions, people with this gift will gather vast amounts of information through studying and analyzing personal experience, but the primary method of learning with this gift is reading and studying books and other written materials. *Scriptures: Luke 1:1-4; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 2:14; 12:8; 2 Corinthians 11:6; Colossians 1:10; 2:2-3; 1 Timothy 2:15.*

## Knowledge

Knowledge (Speaking Gift) - The special gift whereby the Spirit enables certain Christians to understand in an exceptional way the great truths of God's Word and to make them relevant to specific situations in the church. Also, the desire to seek out and learn as much about the Bible as possible through gathering much information and the analysis of that data.   
  
The divine enablement to bring truth to the body through a revelation or Biblical insight.   
  
People with this gift:   
- receive truth which enables them to better serve the body   
- search the scriptures for insight, understanding, and truth   
- gain knowledge which at times was not attained by natural means   
- have an unusual insight or understanding that serves the church   
- organize information for teaching and practical use.   
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[2 Chronicles 1:7-12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=2CHRON+1%3A7-12)   
[Colossians 2:2-3](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=COL+2%3A2-3)   
[2 Corinthians 11:6](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=2COR+11%3A6)   
[Daniel 2:20-21](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=DAN+2%3A20-21)   
[Proverbs 2:6](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PROV+2%3A6)   
[Proverbs 9:10](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PROV+9%3A10)   
[Psalms 119:66](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PS+119%3A66)   
[Jeremiah 3:15](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JER+3%3A15)

**19. Prophecy:** The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people with authority and urgency perceived by the hearers.  
      This gift is a communication gift. Those with the gift of prophecy will often feel as though they have a direct word from God that will comfort, encourage, guide, warn, or rebuke the Body of Christ. Prophets are concerned about evangelism and will have a desire speak strongly against evil in society or in the church. Prophets have a great sense of urgency to their message. Unless paired with the gifts of exhortation or teaching, prophets will often not feel the need to explain their message, but will expect immediate response. The message of a prophet must always be tested in line with Scripture. Prophets would be wise to test their message against Scripture prior to delivering the message, and using Scriptural precedent in delivery of their message. *Scripture: Luke 7:26; Acts 15:32; 21:9-11; Romans 12:6; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28; 14:3, 24-25, 29, 36-38; Ephesians 4:11-14.*  
      **Note:** *Exhortation*, *Prophecy*, and *Teaching* are considered the communication gifts. The distinctions for each gift are often confused. Often, gifted communicators have a mix of these gifts. *Exhortation* focuses on personal and practical application of the message or truth being communicated. *Prophecy* focuses purely on the message or truth to be communicated. *Teaching* focuses on bringing thorough or adequate understanding of the message or truth being communicated.

## Prophet / Prophecy

Prophet / Prophecy (Special Gift) - The special ability God gives to some to proclaim the Word of God with clarity and to apply it fearlessly with a view to the strengthening, encouragement, and comfort of believers and the convincing of unbelievers. The special gift whereby the Spirit empowers certain Christians to interpret and apply God's revelation in a given situation.   
  
The divine enablement to reveal truth and proclaim it in a timely and relevant manner for understanding, correction, repentance, or edification. There may be immediate or future implications.   
  
People with this gift:   
- expose sin or deception in others for the purpose of reconciliation   
- speak a timely word from God causing conviction, repentance, and edification   
- see truth that others often fail to see and challenge them to respond   
- warn of God's immediate or future judgment if there is no repentance   
- understand God's heart and mind through experiences He takes them through.   
  
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[Romans 12:6-8](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+12%3A6-8)   
[Ephesians 4:11-13](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=EPH+4%3A11-13)   
[1 Corinthians 12:28-31](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A28-31)   
[Deuteronomy 18:18-22](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=DEUT+18%3A18-22)   
[1 Corinthians 14:1-5](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A1-5)   
[1 Corinthians 14:24-25](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A24-25)   
[1 Corinthians 14:30-33](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A30-33)   
[1 Corinthians 14:37-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+14%3A37-40)

**22. Teaching:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the Body and its members in such a way that others will learn."  
      This gift is a communication gift. People with the gift of teaching enjoy studying the Bible and related materials in order to communicate what they have learned to other Christians. Those with this gift find it easy to organize vast amounts of information in such a way as to make it easy to communicate, understand, and remember. *Scriptures: Matthew 7:28-29; 28:19-20; Acts 15:32; Romans 12:6; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28; Ephesians 4:11-14.*  
      **Note:** *Exhortation*, *Prophecy*, and *Teaching* are considered the communication gifts. The distinctions for each gift are often confused. Often, gifted communicators have a mix of these gifts. *Exhortation* focuses on personal and practical application of the message or truth being communicated. *Prophecy* focuses on the urgency and impact of the message or truth being communicated. *Teaching* focuses on bringing thorough or adequate understanding of the message or truth being communicated.

**23. Tongues:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ (a) to speak to God in a language that they have never learned and/or (b) to receive and communicate a message of God to his people through a divinely anointed utterance in a language they never learned."  
      This gift is a sign gift. At Lakeview Baptist Church, God has chosen not to use the gift of tongues on a corporate level, therefore the instances where the (b) portion of this gift are in use is very limited. However, there are several small groups within the church among whom God has chosen to use this gift. Tongues is often associated with intercession and/or faith, but must be recognized as not necessarily being *the* sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit or even as evidence of *the* filling of the Holy Spirit. Tongues, like any other spiritual gift, is given by God to whomever He chooses to be used to His glory and the edification of the Church.   
      1 Corinthians 13:1 suggests that there are two forms of the gift of tongues: tongues of men and tongues of angels. This would mean that the speaker could be speaking in an earthly language, or in a language beyond normal human understanding. *Scriptures: Mark 16:17; Acts 2:1-13; 10:44-46; 19:1-7; Romans 8:26-27; 1 Corinthians 12:10,28; 13:1; 14:13-19, 26-28, 39.*  
      **Note on *Tongues* and *Interpretation of Tongues*:** When used in a group setting, an interpretation must take place, or else the one speaking the tongue should remain silent. If a tongue is spoken without an interpretation, the speaker is edified. If the tongue is interpreted, it is for the edification of the body.

**21. Shepherd:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the welfare of a group of believers."  
      This gift is a leadership gift. This gift is often called "pastor," however, that name has a connotation of a specific position in the church. In actuality, when pastors have this gift, their ability to continue sustained growth in their churches is greatly diminished, as they tend to require a certain level of interaction with every member of their congregation. Those with the gift of shepherd have a great need for long-term relationships. Shepherds will sacrificially give themselves to other people in such a way that they are built-up in their faith. Shepherds take personal responsibility for the successes and failures of those in the group that they invest themselves in. *Scriptures: John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-4.*

**15. Leadership:** "The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to set goals in accordance with God’s purpose for the future and to communicate these goals to others in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God."  
      This gift is a leadership gift. People with this gift are often focused on the greater goal of the group and are not overly concerned with the details. Leaders delegate tasks and details to others to accomplish the greater goal. Leaders are visionaries. Leaders have followers-a visionary without followers is not a leader. *Scriptures: Luke 9:51; Acts 6:1-7; 15:7-11; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 5:17; Hebrews 13:17.*

## Discernment / Distinguishing Spirits

Discernment / Distinguishing of Spirits - The special ability God gives to some to know with assurance whether certain behavior or teaching is from God, Satan, human error, or human power.   
  
The divine enablement to distinguish between truth and error, to discern the spirits, differentiating between good and evil, right and wrong.   
  
People with this gift:   
- distinguish truth from error, right from wrong, pure motives from impure   
- identify deception in others with accuracy and appropriateness   
- determine whether a word attributed to God is authentic   
- recognize inconsistencies in a teaching, prophetic message, or interpretation   
- are able to sense the presence of evil.   
  
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[1 John 4:1-6](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1JOHN+4%3A1-6)   
[1 Corinthians 2:9-16](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+2%3A9-16)   
[2 Chronicles 2:12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=2CHRON+2%3A12)   
[Psalms 119:125](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PS+119%3A125)   
[Proverbs 3:21](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=PR+3%3A21)   
[1 Kings 3:9](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1KGS+3%3A9)   
[Hebrews 5:14](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=HEB+5%3A14)

## Encouragement

Encouragement (Speaking Gift) - The special ability God gives some to offer comfort, words of encouragement, hope, and reassurance to discouraged, weak, or troubled Christians in such a way that they are consoled.   
People with this gift:   
- come to the side of those who are discouraged to reassure them and give them hope   
- emphasize God's promises and confidence in his will.   
[Romans 12:6-8](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+12%3A6-8)   
[Titus 1:9](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=TITUS+1%3A9)   
[Acts 11:23-24](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+11%3A23-24)   
[Acts 14:21-22](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+14%3A21-22)   
[1 Thessalonians 2:11-12](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1THES+2%3A11-12)   
[1 Thessalonians 5:9-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1THES+5%3A9-11)

## Evangelism / Evangelist

Evangelism / Evangelist - The special ability God gives to some to proclaim the Gospel of salvation effectively so that people respond to the promises of Christ through conversion to Christianity.   
  
The divine enablement to effectively communicate the gospel to unbelievers so they respond in faith and move toward discipleship.   
  
People with this gift:   
- communicate the message of Christ with clarity and conviction   
- seek out opportunities to talk to unbelievers about spiritual matters   
- challenge unbelievers to faith and to become fully devoted followers of Christ   
- adapt their presentation of the gospel to connect with the individual's needs   
- seek opportunities to build relationships with unbelievers.   
  
[Ephesians 4:11-16](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=EPH+4%3A11-16)   
[Matthew 28:16-20](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MATT+28%3A16-20)   
[Acts 2:36-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+2%3A36-40)   
[Acts 8:5-6](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+8%3A5-6)   
[Acts 14:21](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+14%3A21)   
[Acts 8:26-40](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+8%3A26-40)   
[2 Timothy 4:5](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=2TIM+4%3A5)

## Exhortation

Exhortation (Speaking Gift) - The special ability God gives some to help strengthen weak, faltering, and fainthearted Christians in such a way that they are motivated to be all God wants them to be.   
  
The ability to help others reach their full potential by means of encouraging, challenging, comforting, and guiding.   
  
The divine enablement to present truth so as to strengthen or urge to action those who are discouraged or wavering in their faith.   
  
People with this gift:   
- come to the side of those who are weak in spirit to strengthen them   
- challenge or confront others to trust and hope in the promises of God   
- urge others to action by applying Biblical truth   
- offers advise, an outline for a solution, or a program for progress   
- motivates others to grow.   
[1 Timothy 5:1-2](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1TIM+5%3A1-2)   
[Hebrews 3:13](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=KJ&passage=HEB+3%3A13)   
[Hebrews 13:22](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=HEB+13%3A22)   
[1 Thessalonians 5:14](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=KJ&passage=1THE+5%3A14)

## Faith

Faith - The special conviction God gives to some to be firmly persuaded of God's power and promises to accomplish His will and purpose and to display such a confidence in Him and His Word that circumstances and obstacles do not shake that conviction.   
  
The divine enablement to act on God's promises with confidence and unwavering belief in God's ability to fulfill his purposes.   
  
People with this gift:   
- believe the promises of God and inspire others to do the same   
- act in complete confidence of God's ability to overcome obstacles   
- demonstrate an attitude of trust in God's will and his promises   
- advance the cause of Christ because they go forward when others will not   
- ask God for what is needed and trust him for his provision.   
  
[1 Corinthians 12:7-11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1COR+12%3A7-11)   
[Mark 5:25-34](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=MARK+5%3A25-34)   
[Acts 27:21-25](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ACTS+27%3A21-25)   
[Hebrews 11](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=HEB+11%3A1-40)   
[Romans 4:18-21](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=ROM+4%3A18-21)

## Writing

Writing - the gift that gives a believer the ability to express truth in a written form; a form that can edify, instruct and strengthen the community of believers.   
  
The special God-given ability to formulate thoughts and ideas into meaningful written forms so that the reader will find courage, guidance, knowledge, or edification through the words shared with them.   
  
The Bible was written by people with this gift.   
  
People with this gift:   
- may write stories, sermons, devotions, histories, prayers, songs, or poetry to be used to build up the body of Christ   
- may be inspired by the Holy Spirit in what they write   
- may teach God's word to others through what they write   
- may use writing to express other gifts   
- may be better at expressing their thoughts in written form than in verbal form.   
[Luke 1:1-3](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=LUKE+1%3A1-3)   
[1 John 2:1](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1JOHN+2%3A1)   
[1 John 2:12-14](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1JOHN+2%3A12-14)   
[1 Timothy 3:14-15](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=1TIM+3%3A14-15)   
[Jude 1:3](http://bible.gospelcom.net/cgi-bin/bible?language=english&version=NIV&passage=JUDE+1%3A3)