

Church Growth - Gift Discernment

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Hear again Paul's admonition – "About gifts of the Spirit, my friends, I want there to be no misunderstanding." 1 Cor. 12: 1.

There has been considerable misunderstanding over the years about spiritual gifts, especially some listed in 1 Cor. 12, such as speaking in tongues and prophecy.

- Much encouragement in Anglican circles in cultivating the "Fruit of the Spirit", but some resistance to the discovery and manifestation of certain spiritual gifts, especially in public worship.

Every Christian has at least one gift (1 Peter 4: 10), and the manifestation of such gifts are for the common good. (1 Cor. 12: 7)

- Lists of the spiritual gifts can be found at Romans 12: 3 – 8, 1 Corinthians 12: 8 – 10 and 28, and Ephesians 4: 8 – 14.

Discovering one's particular spiritual gifts can be a thrilling experience. Listed in the resources is a guided questionnaire helping parishioners to identify and understand their unique and God-given spiritual gifts. This resource is titled: [Finding Your Spiritual Gifts](#) by Peter Wagner.

Peter would remind us that we are to use whatever gifts we have received in serving others.

- An example of attempting to "put a square peg in a round hole", and the resulting frustration due to the fact that the person placed in the ministry lacked the required gifts.

Let's be good stewards of our God-given spiritual gifts.

As Paul would remind us,
Don't quench the Spirit,
Don't fear the Spirit,
Don't grieve the Spirit.
Be filled with the Spirit.