

# "SPIRITUAL GIFTS"

**By Mike Burnham**

The scripture teaches that every Christian should fit into a spiritual body (the local church), just as physical members unite together in a physical body, (Eph. 2:19-22), 1 Cor. 12:14-26). This body needs the equivalent of hands, feet, eyes, joints, and all other bodily "members". Each physical member of the body has a unique function to fulfill for the proper working of the body. Likewise, each spiritual member of the spiritual body (the church), has a unique function to fulfill for the proper working of the spiritual body. Our spiritual gifts give us insight into what "member" we were designed to be in relation to the rest of the body. Our challenge is to discover our gift or gifts and become a contributor for the benefit of the whole body.

Spiritual gifts are for the edifying, strengthening, of the church, (1 Cor. 14:12), and they are to be used with love or they are useless, (1 Cor. 13:1-3). They are to be used to serve others, (1 Pet. 4:10-11). When we all do our part, we will build up the church as God intended, (1 Cor. 12:27).

A Christian who properly understands and uses his spiritual gift becomes an enthusiastic worker and a much happier Christian.

What we are going to try to do during the course of this study is direct you, a gifted believer, toward finding, understanding, and using your spiritual gift. Paul charged the Corinthians, "now", concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant" (1 Cor. 12:1).

What is a spiritual gift? It's a divinely inspired ability or skill, which enables the recipient to perform a function in the church with ease, effectiveness, and personal pleasure.

Each believer has a spiritual gift, 1 Pet. 4:10; Romans 12:4-8.