



# Spiritual Gifts

The Spiritual Gift of Exhortation - Part 1

## Key Topic Scriptures – Romans 12:6–8

**Definition** – The spiritual gift of exhortation is one of the gifts given by the Holy Spirit to strengthen the Body of Christ. Those believers gifted with the gift of exhortation have the God-given ability to inspire others toward spiritual growth and faithful living by encouraging, comforting, motivating, and challenging believers to persevere through difficulties.

### A. Characteristics of an Exhorter

1. A person with the gift of Exhortation:

- Encourages the discouraged
- Comforts the heavy-hearted
- Challenges complacency
- Motivates obedience in believers
- Offers biblical counsel
- Inspires perseverance

**Key Scriptures:** *Hebrews 10:24–25; 1 Corinthians 14:3; Hebrews 3:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:14*

The Greek word translated “exhortation” in Romans 12 is *paraklesis*, which means

- Encouragement of believers
- Convicting and guiding
- Strengthening the faith

The word “comforter” comes from the same Greek root, *parakletos*, which means:

- Admonition
- Urging someone forward during trials
- Coming alongside to help
- To provide comfort

### B. Biblical Examples of Exhorters

1. **Jesus** – consistently encouraged His followers to trust God despite their difficulties. He encouraged Peter even after his failure. (*John 16:33; Luke 22:31–32; Matthew 11:28–30; Luke 9:23*)
2. **Barnabas** – saw God’s work in others, he encouraged spiritual growth in believers, and he strengthened new believers. (*Acts 4:36; 11:22–24 & 14:22*)

Biblical exhortation is rooted in truth and hope, not merely making people feel good.

Spiritually gifted exhorters:

- Look for and can see God’s grace in others
- Build others up
- Help believers to remain faithful