



Spiritual Gifts

Topic: The Spiritual Gift of Exhortation Part 2

What is the Gift of Exhortation?

The believer with the spiritual gift of exhortation has the God-given ability to inspire others toward spiritual growth and faithful living. Specifically, exhortation involves encouraging, comforting, motivating, and challenging believers to grow in faith, obey God, and persevere through difficulties.

Key Topic Scriptures: Roman 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. Purposes of the Gift of Exhortation

1. To Strengthen Believers (Hebrews 3:13; Hebrews 10:24-25)

- Regular encouragement protects believers from spiritual hardness
- Effective exhortation stimulates spiritual growth and faithful service

2. To Comfort the Afflicted (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

Exhorters will often:

- Listen compassionately to the afflicted
- Share God's promises for encouragement
- Point people towards hope in God

3. To Encourage Perseverance (James 1:12; Acts 14:21-22)

- Strong exhortation helps believers remain steadfast during trials and tribulations
- Exhorters always remind others that endurance produces spiritual maturity

4. To Call Believers to Action (1 Thessalonians 4:1)

- Exhortation is not only comforting to others, it also motivates obedience and godly living
- Encouragers help believers to remain faithful in their work for the Lord



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B. Dangers and Misuses of the Gift of Exhortation (**Proverbs 19:2; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Galatians 6:1**)

As stated earlier in our teachings, spiritual gifts can be misused if we are not careful in the exercising of our God-given gifts.

1. Potential Pitfalls

- a. Becoming Overly Directive – Exhorters may push people faster than God intends. (**Proverbs 19:2**)
- b. Giving Opinions Instead of Scripture – True exhortation is always grounded in the Word of God. (**2 Timothy 3:16–17**)
- c. Neglecting Balance – All correction or encouragement must be balanced with gentleness. (**Galatians 6:1**)

Exhortation Language Review

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 as exhortation, which means:

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