


A SEVEN-DAY STUDY

MADE FOR THIS

DISCOVER YOUR
SPIRITUAL GIFTS

JIMMY MCLOUD



Discovering your spiritual gifts is one part of a
lifelong journey of following Jesus. A road we walk
until it leads us home.

This book features various photographs that I have
taken from different places around the world. Each
picture is of a path or road I walked.

If you're a fan of travel photography, you can see
more of the pictures I've taken at
jimmymcloud.com/photography.



THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING

So, you want to discover your spiritual gifts? Awesome. But before we jump in, let's be clear—this isn't some kind of personality test where you find out if you're a "Helper" or a "Teacher" and then just go about your life unchanged. This is about figuring out how God has uniquely wired you so you can step into the purpose He has for you.

If you're a follower of Jesus, you have spiritual gifts. Period. You weren't just saved *from* something (sin, brokenness, hopelessness), but you were saved *for* something. God has gifted you—not to sit on the sidelines, but to play an active role in what He's doing in the world.

Maybe you've never thought about your gifts before. Maybe you've taken a spiritual gifts test in the past but never really did anything with it. Maybe you feel stuck, like you don't have anything valuable to offer. Wherever you're coming from, this seven-day study is designed to help you identify, understand, and start using your gifts the way God intended.

Each day, you'll dig into Scripture, reflect on some key questions, and take a practical step forward. The goal is simple: A week from now, you'll have a clearer picture of how God has gifted you and how you can start making a real impact in the world. And then you'll *do it*, and you'll experience the fulfillment of living out your purpose. There's nothing like it..

Before you begin: Take a free Spiritual Gifts Assessment at firstchristian.com/discover.



DAY ONE

THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

READ: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Spiritual gifts aren't about us—they're about God working through us. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul makes it clear that the Holy Spirit is the one who gives these gifts, and He does so on purpose. No one is left out. No one is gifted by accident. And no one gets to boast because these gifts are *given*, not earned. The variety of gifts shows that God designed the church to function as a diverse but unified body, where every person plays a unique and vital role. So, if you've ever doubted whether you have something meaningful to contribute—spoiler alert—you do. The question isn't *if* you have a spiritual gift; it's what it is and how you're using it.

REFLECT:

- How does knowing that the Holy Spirit gives spiritual gifts challenge the way you think about your role in the church?
- What's one gift mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12 that you feel drawn to or curious about?
- How do you see unity and diversity in this passage?
- Have you ever hesitated to use your gifts because you didn't feel qualified? How does this passage speak to that?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Ask God to open your mind and heart to recognize and embrace the gifts He has given you.



DAY TWO

EVERY BELIEVER IS GIFTED

READ: Romans 12:3-8

Romans 12 makes it clear that every believer has been given a spiritual gift. No one is left out. If you're a follower of Jesus, you've been equipped with something valuable to contribute to the body of Christ. Your gift may not look like someone else's, but that's the beauty of it—God designed the church to function through a diversity of gifts. So if you've ever felt like you don't have anything to offer, this passage says otherwise. God has gifted you—the question is, are you using it?

REFLECT:

- What attitude should we have about our gifts?
- How do these gifts reflect different roles in the body of Christ?
- Which of the gifts listed in Romans 12 do you see at work in your life?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Write down ideas for how you can use your gifts to serve others in the church and in your community.



DAY THREE

USING YOUR GIFTS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

READ: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Spiritual gifts were never meant to be about status—they're about *service*. 1 Peter 4 reminds us that our gifts are meant to bless others and bring glory to God. That means your gifts aren't just for you—they're for the people around you. When you serve in your gifting, you're not just filling a role; you're reflecting God's grace in a way that only you can. So, instead of waiting for the perfect opportunity, ask, "How can I use what God has given me to serve someone today?"

REFLECT:

- What does Peter say is the main purpose of our spiritual gifts?
- How does using them to serve others glorify God?
- Are you serving in a way that aligns with this passage?
- How can you use your gifts to strengthen and encourage someone this week?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Pray for the humility and wisdom to use your gifts for God's glory and others' benefit.



DAY FOUR

USING YOUR GIFTS TO BUILD THE KINGDOM

READ: Ephesians 4:11-16

Ephesians 4 shows us that spiritual gifts aren't just for individual benefit—they're for building up the church. When each person operates in their gifting, the body of Christ becomes stronger, healthier, and more effective. Your gifts have a purpose beyond you. They help others grow in faith, bring unity to the church, and point people to Jesus. If you're not using your gifts, the church is missing something only you can contribute. So, ask yourself: "How is God calling me to step up and build His church?"

REFLECT:

- How do spiritual gifts help build the body of Christ?
- In what ways can you contribute to the church's growth?
- In what ways have you seen the church grow stronger when people operate in their spiritual gifts?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Take a moment to reflect on how God may be using you. If unsure, ask trusted friends or leaders for insight.



DAY FIVE

AVOIDING COMPARISON & EMBRACING YOUR ROLE

READ: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Comparison is a trap that can keep us from fully embracing our God-given role. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul reminds us that every part of the body is necessary—no exceptions. When we spend time wishing we had someone else's gifts, we miss the beauty of how God designed us to function together. The church isn't complete without you playing your part. Instead of asking, "Why don't I have their gift?" start asking, "How can I be faithful with what God has given me?"

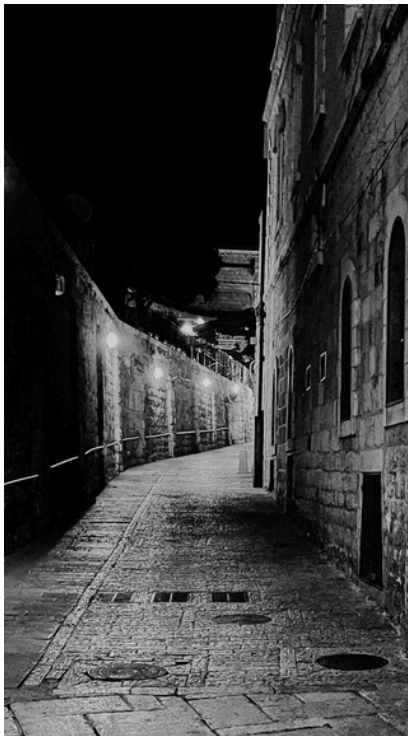
REFLECT:

- Why is comparison harmful in the body of Christ?
- What happens when one part of the body is missing or inactive?
- How does this passage encourage you to use your gifts?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Ask God to help you focus on fulfilling your role instead of comparing yourself to others.



DAY SIX

FANNING YOUR GIFT INTO FLAME

READ: 2 Timothy 1:6-7

God has given you gifts, but it's your responsibility to fan them into flame. In 2 Timothy 1, Paul reminds Timothy that fear and hesitation have no place in God's calling. Too often, we let doubt, insecurity, or busyness keep us from stepping into what God has equipped us to do. But the Spirit inside you isn't one of fear—it's one of power. So, what's holding you back? It's time to stop waiting and start using what God has already placed in you.

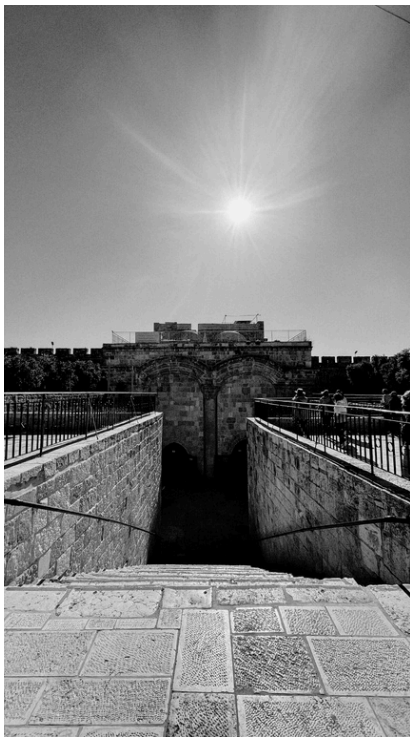
REFLECT:

- What does it mean to “fan into flame” the gift of God?
- What fears keep you from using your gifts?
- How does God equip us to overcome fear and timidity?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Step out in faith this week and serve in a way that aligns with your gifts.



DAY SEVEN

PUTTING YOUR GIFTS INTO ACTION

READ: Matthew 25:14-30

Spiritual gifts are meant to be used, not ignored or squandered. In Matthew 25, Jesus makes it clear that faithfulness with what we've been given matters. Playing it safe or waiting for the "perfect" moment isn't an option—God calls us to step out and invest in His kingdom by serving others with our gifts. The gifts He's entrusted to you are meant to make an impact. So, what's your next step? It's time to stop hesitating and start putting your gifts into action.

REFLECT:

- How does the parable of the talents challenge the way you think about using your gifts?
- What happens when we use our gifts?
- What fears or excuses have held you back from stepping out in faith with your gifts?
- How is God calling you to take action?

YOUR NOTES:

PRAYER & APPLICATION:

Commit to taking a tangible step to use your gifts in the church or community.



NOW WHAT?

You've spent the past seven days digging into what the Bible says about spiritual gifts—now it's time to do something about it. Knowing your gifts is just the first step. The real challenge is using them. You weren't created to sit on the sidelines, and you definitely weren't gifted by accident. God has wired you for a purpose, and the church needs you to step into it.

So, what's your next move? Maybe it's serving in a ministry that aligns with your gifts. Maybe it's having a conversation with a mentor or pastor about where you can plug in. Maybe it's simply praying, God, show me how to use what You've given me. Whatever it is—do something.

Don't let fear, doubt, or comparison keep you from living out the purpose God has for you. The body of Christ is stronger when every part is doing its job—including you. So go. Step up. Serve. And watch what God does through you.

NEXT STEPS:

- Have a conversation with a mentor or pastor about where to serve.
- Pray for clarity and boldness in using your gifts.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jimmy McLoud is the Lead Pastor of [First Christian Church](#) in Canton, Ohio. His passion - and the vision of First Christian - is to share the good news that Jesus is for all people by helping them find hope, purpose, and a place to belong. He also serves on the Board of Directors for [The Solomon Foundation](#) and on the Advisory Team for [The Unstuck Group](#). Jimmy and his wife, Ashley, live in North Canton with their four kids: Braylon, Carter, Ellie, and Grace. To connect with Jimmy, find him on social media (@jimmymcloud).

