

Paul explained that the gifts of the Spirit enable disciples to effectively administer and serve in God’s kingdom and meet the needs of others (see 1 Corinthians 12:5–7). By using the terms “the same Spirit,” “the same Lord,” and

“the same God” (1 Corinthians 12:4–6), Paul recognized that spiritual gifts are manifestations of the united work of all three members of the Godhead. The following chart lists the spiritual gifts specifically listed by Paul.

Spiritual Gift (see 1 Corinthians 12:3–10)	Description
Testimony of Jesus Christ (verse 3)	A witness given through the Holy Ghost “that Jesus is the resurrected, living Son of the living God” (Gordon B. Hinckley, “Fear Not to Do Good,” <i>Ensign</i> , May 1983, 80).
Differences of administrations (verse 5)	Leadership or “administrative ability,” which is “used in administering and regulating the church” (Bruce R. McConkie, <i>A New Witness for the Articles of Faith</i> , 271, 278). The ability to discern correctly how the Lord governs His Church through councils, quorums, auxiliaries, and so on.
Diversities of operations (verse 6)	The ability to distinguish between things that are of the devil and those that are of God.
Word of wisdom (verse 8)	Includes sound judgment and the proper application of gospel doctrines and principles, particularly in decision making (see James 1:5; D&C 136:32–33). Paul’s use of <i>word</i> shows that the gift of wisdom includes the ability to teach a message of wisdom by the power of the Holy Ghost.
Word of knowledge (verse 8)	“An endowment of knowledge, not random knowledge, not knowledge in general or as an abstract principle, but gospel knowledge, a knowledge of God and his laws” (Bruce R. McConkie, <i>Doctrinal New Testament Commentary</i> , 3 vols. [1965–73], 2:370; see also D&C 42:61). Again, Paul’s choice of <i>word</i> emphasizes that this gift includes the ability to teach knowledge by the power of the Holy Ghost (see also D&C 25:7; 28:1; 99:1–2).
Faith (verse 9)	Experienced by degrees and increased through righteous living. Not everyone has the same degree of faith. This gift is a prerequisite for both healing and working miracles (see Matthew 17:14–20; see also 1 Nephi 7:12).
Healing (verse 9)	Manifest through priesthood ordinances. To pray with faith sufficient for healing is also a spiritual gift (see James 5:13–14; D&C 42:48).
Working of miracles (verse 10)	Signs of God’s grace, which affirm that divine power is at work. They are a reminder that God assists those who follow the example of the Savior and minister to others (see Mormon 9:7–11, 18–20).
Prophecy (verse 10)	“The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Revelation 19:10). Personal revelation is the source of testimony, and testimony enables a person to prophesy or testify of God’s work, including His future works. The gift of prophecy does not necessarily mean predicting specific future events. All members of the Church are to seek for this gift (see Numbers 11:29; 1 Corinthians 14:1, 3, 31, 39). The gift of prophecy should not be confused with the prophetic office of a prophet, seer, and revelator.
Discerning of spirits (verse 10)	Discernment of good and evil (see Moroni 7:12–18; D&C 101:95) and of false spirits from divine spirits (see D&C 46:23). The gift of discernment can make known “the thoughts and intents of the heart” of another person (Hebrews 4:12; D&C 33:1). The gift of discernment “arises largely out of an acute sensitivity to impressions—spiritual impressions, . . . to detect hidden evil, and more importantly to find the good that may be concealed. The highest type of discernment is that which perceives in others and uncovers for them their better natures, the good inherent within them” (Stephen L Richards, in Conference Report, Apr. 1950, 162).
Tongues (verse 10)	“Particularly instituted for the preaching of the Gospel to other nations and languages” (Joseph Smith, <i>Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith</i> [2007], 382–83; see also Acts 2:4–12; D&C 90:11). Since speaking in tongues is one of the most visible and sought after of the spiritual gifts, Paul warned against its misuse (see 1 Corinthians 14:4, 9, 27–28, 40).
Interpretation of tongues (verse 10)	Should be accompanied by an inspired interpretation so that listeners are edified (see 1 Corinthians 14:9, 11, 13, 19, 27–28).