



THE GIFTS OF GOD

INTRODUCTION

We have a giving God! Traditionally we give gifts to one another on special occasions as a reward to honor someone, or sometimes with ulterior motives. Unlike us, God bestows His precious gifts on undeserving sinners . . . *He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust* (Matthew 5:45). His gifts are given freely and abundantly to those who deserve them as well as to those who do not deserve them. In I Timothy 6:17b we read, [God] . . . *gives us richly all things to enjoy*. God indeed desires that we enjoy His gifts, but if we are ignorant of them or take them for granted, we will deprive ourselves of their full enjoyment. God is an infinitely generous God. The greatest gift that He has given to mankind is the gift of His Only Begotten Son, the Savior of the world.

THEME SCRIPTURE

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning (James 1:17).

SECTION I – Definitions

1. WRITE your own definition of the word *gift*. _____

Dictionary Definition

The Webster definition of *gift(s)* is something given, talent or endowment. Something voluntarily transferred from one person to another without compensation; the act, right or power of giving.

Biblical Definitions

In the Old Testament Hebrew there are several words for *gift(s)*. One is *mattaiah* which means a present; in the good sense a sacrificial offering; in a bad sense a bribe. The Hebrew word *minchah* means to bestow; a donation; a tribute; a sacrifice, sacrificial offering; an oblation.

There are also several Greek words found in the New Testament for *gift(s)*. One is *charisma* which means a (divine) gratuity, deliverance from danger; spiritual endowment, God's free gift bestowed on sinners!

Another is *doron* which speaks of a present; a sacrifice offering; a free gift without repayment; not acquired by merit.

In general the word *gift* speaks of a favor which one receives without any merit of his own; a gift given according to the measure of Christ, given freely.

Scripture Descriptions

2. READ the following Scriptures that characterize or describe God's gifts. UNDERLINE a word, phrase or sentence that speaks of the gifts of God.

Matthew 7:9-11 *Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!*

John 3:16 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:32 *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*

Ephesians 2:8 *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.*

James 1:17 *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*

3. What did you learn about God's gifts from these Scriptures? _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

PERSONAL

How has what you have learned impacted you? _____

SECTION II – Scriptural References of God's Gifts

MATCH the Scripture listed with what is said about God's gifts and how He gives them.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ___ Psalm 68:11 | a. Jesus gives eternal life |
| ___ Psalm 103:11 | b. God did not spare His own Son, and will freely give us all things |
| ___ John 3:16 | c. in giving us His grace, through faith we are saved |
| ___ John 10:28 | d. the Lord gave the Word |
| ___ Acts 15:7, 8 | e. God supplies all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus |
| ___ Romans 12:3b | f. inspired by God, the Scripture is given for instruction |
| ___ Romans 8:32 | g. be thankful for God's unspeakable gift |
| ___ II Corinthians 9:15 | h. God gave His only Son |
| ___ Ephesians 2:8, 9 | i. Great is the mercy God gives to those who fear Him |
| ___ Philippians 4:19 | j. God gives the Holy Spirit to the Gentiles as well as the Jews |
| ___ II Timothy 3:16 | k. God has given each a measure of faith |

PERSONAL

Which Scripture ministered to you the most? Why? _____

SECTION III – The Gift of God’s Son

The Purpose of God’s Gift

In this section we will focus on the Father’s gift of Jesus, His Son.

WRITE the purpose for God giving mankind the gift of His Only Begotten Son.

Mark 10:45 _____

John 3:16 _____

Romans 5:8 _____

Romans 6:23 _____

Romans 8:32 _____

The Cost of God’s Gift

READ John Chapters 18 and 19. The Father gave the most costly gift, Jesus – God the Son. What did Jesus endure? What did it cost Him? LIST the verses and SUMMARIZE.

PERSONAL

How did you receive this gift? _____

How did your life change? _____

5

If you have not received the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ your Savior, say this prayer.

Dear Father,

Thank you for the Gift of Your Son Jesus Christ who paid the penalty for my sins and gave me the gift of eternal life. I confess my sins and ask you to forgive me. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit and give me a hunger for Your Word.

In Jesus name.

Amen.

SECTION IV – The Gift of the Holy Spirit

In this section, we will focus on the Father's gift of God the Holy Spirit.¹

1. The Father gave the Holy Spirit as a gift to mankind. What is the work of the Holy Spirit?

John 14:16-18 _____

John 14:26 _____

John 15:26 _____

John 16:7, 8 _____

John 16:13-15 _____

¹ Holy Spirit: third Person of the Trinity; God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit; the Helper, the Spirit of truth, the Comforter.

2. What is the purpose for the Father giving the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer (Acts 1:8)? _____

2

3

3. READ I Corinthians 12:1-11.

In I Corinthians 12 we find a list of spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit to the believer to empower him for service. Although there are different gifts found in a body of believers, let us not overlook the similarities that unite us.

- a. LIST the things that we have in common (vv. 4-7). _____

- b. WRITE the diverse gifts that are given to man by the Spirit of God (vv. 8-11). _____

In I Corinthians 12:31 believers are instructed to desire the best gifts, yet there is a more excellent way.

- c. What is the more excellent way (I Corinthians 13:1-3)? _____

- d. READ I Corinthians 13:4-8. How is love⁴ described? _____

² power – *dunamis* force: marvelous ability, abundance, might, strength.

³ witnesses – *martus* witness: a martyr; record.

⁴ love – *agape* charity: affection, benevolence; sacrificial love; love in a moral sense.

All the gifts become as *nothing* and *fail* if they are not founded in the love of God, the greatest gift of all.

LOOK DEEPER

WRITE the gifts of the Holy Spirit that are found in the following Scriptures.

Romans 12:3-8 _____

Ephesians 4:11, 12 _____

PERSONAL

What gifts are you aware that God has given you? _____

ASK the LORD to show you what gifts He has given you.

How can you use your gifts to encourage, help others and bless God? _____

Thank God for His innumerable gifts to you!

THEME SCRIPTURE

WRITE the THEME SCRIPTURE.

(James 1:17).

*Thanks be to God
for His indescribable gift!*

II Corinthians 9:15

NOTES _____

[illegible]

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All Scripture found in this study is from the New King James Bible unless noted otherwise.

Due to the holy nature of God, the first letter of all references to Him,
His holy name, and His Word have been capitalized.

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