

FOLLOWERS ARE RECIPIENTS OF GOD'S GIFT

A **FAN** OR A **FOLLOWER**

PRECEPT

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7

⁷ A spiritual gift is given to each of us for the common good.

1 PETER 4:10-11

¹⁰ God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. ¹¹ Whoever speaks is to do so as one who speaks the oracles (the very words) of God. Whoever serves is to do so as one who serves by the strength which God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

PROMISE

Following Jesus does not mean attending church every Sunday, repeating a prayer because the pastor says so, becoming a Christian because our parents or family says so, wearing some sort of Christian apparel or having Bible apps on our phones, celebrating Christmas just to be called a Christian, or to be wedded on a Christian setting. While these are good, they do not define one as a follower of Christ. A fan of Christ admires Him from a distance, while a follower adores, loves, and worships Him wholeheartedly. A fan of Christ is self-centred and fickle-minded, will leave Jesus when things go wrong, while a true follower is focused on Christ and will be faithful to Him until the end. An authentic follower of Jesus is someone who is transformed by Him, following Him closely, and on a mission with Him. One also receives gifts from God Himself through His Holy Spirit. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:7, "A spiritual gift is given to each of us for the common good." This is a manifestation of God's sovereignty over a believer's life. Spiritual gifts are attributes given by the Holy Spirit to believers of Jesus which empowers them to serve the church for the glory of God. When we entrust and surrender our lives to Jesus, the Holy Spirit resides in us and gives us spiritual gifts that will enable and empower us to serve the body of Christ.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS Rom 12:6-8, 1 Cor 12:8-10, 28-30, Eph 4:11, 1 Pet 4:9-11		
SPEAKING	SERVING	SIGNING
Teaching	Giving	Healing
Wisdom	Mercy	Miracles
Evangelism	Leadership / Administration	Tongues
Exhortation / Encouragement	Faith	Interpretation
Prophecy	Service / Helps	Discernment
Knowledge	Shepherding / Pastoring	
Apostleship	Hospitality	

Romans 12:6 tells us that we are to use our different gifts in accordance with the grace that God has given us. Peter also said in 1 Peter 4:10-11 that God has given each of us a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. We are to use them well to serve one another. In order to do this, we must do the following: educate yourself (ask God to reveal your Spiritual gift); examine your passion (what are you good at and what your heart wants you to do); explore opportunities (look for opportunities to serve); exercise your gift (volunteer and serve); and evaluate your growth (get feedback).

When we do what God wants us to do, we will be fulfilled and satisfied, also, others will be edified when we serve God's people. Ultimately, God will surely be glorified.

PRACTICE

1. Fan Vs Follower. What is the difference between being a fan and being a follower? As believers, how does following Christ impact our other interests, activities, and behaviours?

2. God's Gift to You. Knowing the gifts God has given you, how can you live out your calling? Give some practical steps in order to do this.

PRAYER

I. Ministries

- Pray that God may bless all our ministries as we commit to the Lord our plans & the people we reach out to.

II. Pastors

- May our pastors and elders seek God with all their hearts. May God continue to protect them & their families.

III. Leaders

- May all our life group & ministry leaders live holy and pure lives. May they influence people in God's ways.

IV. Church

- Pray that God will protect our church against the schemes of the evil one. Let us be a prayerful church.

V. Humility

- May our deeds be done in humility that comes from wisdom.

VI. Families

- May husbands love their wives and wives respect their husbands. May God strengthen all families.

VII. Faith

- May we all have the passion to know Christ more and have faith whenever challenges come our way.