

Earnestly Desire Spiritual Gifts

Pastor Jeremy Richardson, June 28, 2026

Devotional:

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:28, 31 (NKJV)

“And God has appointed these in the church... miracles... gifts of healings...” (v. 28)

“But earnestly desire the best gifts...” (v. 31)

1. God Appointed the Gifts—Man Did Not

1 Corinthians 12:28

Every spiritual gift originated in the heart of God.
The gifts are part of His divine blueprint for the Church.
They were never intended to be optional or temporary.
What God has appointed, the Church should embrace.

Application: Never minimize what God has established for His Church.

2. Hunger for the Supernatural

1 Corinthians 12:31; 14:1

Paul commands believers to earnestly desire spiritual gifts.
Hunger is a sign of spiritual health.
God fills those who are hungry and thirsty.
Expectancy positions us to receive from the Holy Spirit.

Application: Ask God daily to increase your hunger for His power.

3. Spiritual Gifts Are for Ministry, Not Recognition

1 Corinthians 12:7

The gifts are given for the profit of everyone.
They exist to strengthen the Church.
They reveal Jesus to a hurting world.
The goal is never personal attention but Kingdom advancement.

Application: Make yourself available to be used by God wherever He leads.

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4. The Church Must Walk in Both Love and Power

1 Corinthians 13:1–2; 14:1

Love without power leaves people without demonstration.

Power without love becomes self-centered.

The New Testament pattern is both compassion and supernatural ministry.

Jesus ministered with both.

Application: Pray that your love for people becomes the channel through which God's power flows.

5. Refuse to Settle for Less Than the Book of Acts

Hebrews 13:8

Acts 2:43

Acts 5:12

Jesus has not changed.

The Holy Spirit has not changed.

The promises of God have not changed.

The Church should still expect miracles, healings, deliverance, and the gifts of the Spirit in operation today.

Don't lower your expectation to match experience; raise your faith to match Scripture.

Application: Live every day expecting the Holy Spirit to work through you.

Closing Thought

God never told His Church to explain away the gifts—He told us to earnestly desire them. Every believer should cultivate a holy hunger for the supernatural, pursue love above all else, and remain available for the Holy Spirit to minister through them. When the Church desires what God desires, the gifts of the Spirit become a powerful testimony that Jesus Christ is alive and still working today.