God's Children--Gifted

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- I. Introduction.
 - A. Text: I Corinthians 12, I Peter 4:10.
 - B. Believers have a responsibility to discover their gifts.
 - C. Unresolved conflict, a lack of community, imitating another's gift, a failure to analyze, a lack of motivation or a confusion of ministry and gift may keep one from discovering his gift.
- II. How a person develops his gift.
 - A. One must learn to walk in the Spirit.
 - B. One must know the characteristics of his gift.
 - C. When a person develops his gift, his motivation and fruitfulness will increase.
 - D. Christ in a person always equips him for the moment.
- III. Gifts.
 - A. Prophesy. (I Corinthians 14:1)
 - B. Service. (Ephesians 5:13)
 - C. Teaching.
 - D. Exhorting. (Hebrews 4:13)
 - E. Giving. (Luke 6:38)
 - F. Ruling. (I Timothy 3:4)
 - G. Mercy. (Colossians 3:12)
- IV. God has different gifts for the building up of one another so that all might benefit from another perspective.
- V. A person is not to be a spectator in church, but a servant.
 - A. We are not to put any limitation on God.
 - B. In order to be the person that God wants us to be we must be willing to be "squeezed" into the lives of other people.

VI. The first key in discovering a spiritual gift is knowing one's motivation: love must underlay all the gifts otherwise they are fruitless. (I Corinthians 13)

Application questions:

1. How can you be more than a spectator in your church?
2. What is your gift? How would you advise someone to discover his or her own spiritual gift
3. What is the purpose of the gifts in the church? Explain.