

# AMPLIFY: Spiritual Gifts

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## Lesson 1: The Gift Giver

**What we want students to learn:** The point of the lesson is that students would understand that God's plan to serve and grow His Church is for the Holy Spirit to work in and through individual Believers.

**What we want them to do with what they've learned:** To consider their attitudes toward the gifts they've been given.

**Scripture Focus:** Exodus 31:1-5, Numbers 11:16-17, Ezekiel 11:5, Joel 2:28-29, Acts 1:1-8

**Overview:** Teenagers and adults alike are fascinated with the idea of spiritual gifts, and for good reason. It's pretty awesome to think that the Holy Spirit works through us in specific ways, empowering us to build up the Church! When we think of the Spirit working through people to do God's work, we usually think in terms of a post-Pentecost, New Testament understanding. But the Old Testament is full of instances where the Spirit worked in and through people to advance God's mission. More importantly, the Old Testament provides evidence of God's desire to one day send His Spirit to permanently dwell with His people, thus providing them with an ever-present power source for advancing God's Kingdom. In this first lesson, students will learn that the Holy Spirit has always been active, empowering Believers to serve alongside God in His work. This lesson will trace this concept through the Old Testament, setting the stage for Lesson 2 where your students will understand how the Gospel impacts the concept of spiritual gifts.

## Lesson 2: Equipped To Serve

**What we want students to learn:** The point of the lesson is that your students would understand that Jesus paved the way for the Holy Spirit to empower all believers to serve God's Church and His Kingdom.

**What we want them to do with what they've learned:** To begin to challenge students' attitudes about their role in serving/growing the Church.

**Scripture Focus:** Matthew 3:13-4:1, 4:13-15; Luke 4:31-39; John 14:25-26; Acts 2:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-13

**Overview:** Your study on Spiritual Gifts is moving to its high point in Lesson 2, where students will be challenged to identify their gifts and to use those gifts to serve and grow their Church and the Kingdom. But you can't get to this point until you help them understand the role Jesus played in paving the way for the Spirit's indwelling and subsequent empowering of all Believers. Jesus Himself said that it was good that He was leaving His disciples. Jesus knew then what we know now: Jesus' ministry was uniquely marked by the Spirit, and upon His death, resurrection, and ascension, the Holy Spirit would also uniquely mark the ministry of His followers. The Holy Spirit would indwell all Believers, among other roles, empowering us to serve and grow our local churches and God's Kingdom. This lesson will help your students lay a foundation for a right understanding of spiritual gifts and will begin to prepare them to see all their gifts as given by God for His purposes.

### **Lesson 3: Putting Your Gifts To Good Use**

**What we want students to learn:** The point of the lesson is that students would begin to understand exactly what spiritual gifts are and why they're given.

**What we want them to do with what they've learned:** That they would be challenged to both commit to discovering how the Holy Spirit has gifted them and to use these gifts to serve the Church.

**Scripture Focus:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-12, Romans 12:3-8, 1 Peter 4:7-11

**Overview:** Your students have learned that the Holy Spirit has always worked to empower Believers for His purposes. Last lesson they learned Christ's role in paving the way for all Believers to have the Holy Spirit permanently dwelling inside of them, and therefore, to have a constant power source enabling them to serve. In this lesson, your students will begin to be introduced to the idea of spiritual gifts in the form of the specific skills or roles mentioned in Scripture. While this lesson isn't the right format to attempt to cover all of the spiritual gifts mentioned in Scripture (even agreeing on what that list looks like has been a source of frustration for the Church over the centuries), it will challenge students to think about how the Spirit has gifted them. The goal is for your students to begin to identify how they are gifted, but more so, to commit to actually donating their gifts to serve your church and the Kingdom at large.