

# MT Zion Missionary Baptist Church

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# THE CHURCH

## The Nature of The Church

- As we observed in our study of the Holy Spirit, God creates his Church by pouring out his Spirit to inhabit his people, both individually and corporately (Act 2).
- By the working of the Spirit, the Church is the body of Christ, made up of individuals who serve one another through diverse gifts and ministries with a view to being built up in unity & love (1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 4:11-16).
- Therefore, to be a Christian is to be in an interdependent relationship with other Christians, reflecting the interdependent relationship of the members of the Trinity.
- We might say that there are two things that one cannot be alone: married, or a Christian. God has designed it so that we need one another in order to hold unswervingly to our faith, to be encouraged in bearing the fruit and gifts of the Spirit and to have our needs provided for.
- Because Christians need other Christians to be the Church that God intends, the writer of Hebrews exhorts his readers not to give up their habit of regularly meeting together (Hebrews 10:23-25)

# THE CHURCH

## The Nature of The Church

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### Members of The Church

- ❑ The New Testament teaches that the Church is made up of all who profess in Christ, no matter what nationality, gender, or status in life, for the only boundary-marker of the people of God in the New Covenant is the presence of the Spirit (Ephesians 2:11-22; Galatians 3:26-29).
- ❑ So, when we say that we affirm that we believe in the universal community of believers; that is, we believe that the church is not something man-made or bound by artificial barriers or that can be solely claimed by one certain group or type of people.

# Jews and Gentiles Reconciled Through Christ

Ephesians 3:11-22 [NIV]

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<sup>11</sup> Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)— <sup>12</sup> remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup> He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

# Children of The Most High God

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## Galatians 3:26-29 [NIV]

<sup>26</sup> So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

# The Laborers Are Few

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- ☐ The Church is not a Religious Club.
- ☐ The Church is not a Burial Society.
- ☐ The Church is not a Well-Fair Agency.
- ☐ The Church is not a Political Porn.
- ☐ The Church is not a Social Society.
- ☐ The Church is not a Ministry of The Government.
- ☐ The Church is not a Business for Personal Career and Profit.

# The Laborers Are Few

- ❑ The church does not exist for heaven but for earth. We are so heavenly minded, we are so in to condemning ourselves . John 16:7 Go ye into all the world.. Heaven and Earth belong to God. The Earth is the Lord and the earth is not hell. When you stay on earth you are still in the present of God.
- ❑ The church was created for earth not heaven. God give us trials so you can be a living testimony, so others can see that someone have gone through many trials right here on earth, and no one but God could have delivered them through their trials. God has reconciled with his children through the blood and body of his Son Jesus Christ.

# GOD CREATED US FOR HIS PURPOSE

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Revelation 4:11 King James Version (KJV)

<sup>11</sup> Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy **PLEASURE** they are and were created.



# God's Characteristics Demonstrated In His Spiritual Gifts

## Motivational, Ministry, and Manifestation Gifts

The Apostle Paul speaks of **the variety of spiritual gifts**: *“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. . . . But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will”*

(I Corinthians 12:4–11).

# THERE ARE 3 TYPES OF CATEGORIES OF GIFTS

To minister to His Church and to accomplish His work in the world.

**Motivational Gifts:** “... *Diversities of gifts* ...”(I Corinthians 12:4).

How God works in a believer to shape his perspective on life and motivate his words and actions. (See Romans 12:3–8.)

**Ministry Gifts:** “... *Differences of administrations* ...

”(I Corinthians 12:5).

How God works with what a believer does to serve and meet the needs of others. (See Ephesians 4:11–13 and I Corinthians 12:27–31.)

**Manifestation Gifts:** “... *Diversities of operations* ...

”(I Corinthians 12:6).

How God works through a believer in a given situation to demonstrate His supernatural power. (See I Corinthians 12:7–11.)

# Motivational Gifts

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At the Moment of Salvation, a Believer Receives One of  
**SEVEN MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS**

- ✓ Prophecy
- ✓ Serving
- ✓ Teaching
- ✓ Exhorting
- ✓ Giving
- ✓ Organizing
- ✓ Mercy

# Motivational Gifts

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This gift of God's grace **shapes how the believer views life, relates to others, and impacts the Body of Christ.** A motivational gift can be compared to a set of eyeglasses from God, given so that the believer can see people and circumstances through that particular set of "lenses."

The following are simple descriptions of the seven motivational gifts, explaining how a person with each gift would "see" his or her role in the Body of Christ:

# Motivational Gifts

**PROPHECY:** Reveals truth by exposing sin, so that fellowship with God can be restored and/or maintained

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**SERVING:** Demonstrates love by meeting practical needs, usually through tangible work

**TEACHING:** Discovers and validates truth so that the Church maintains accuracy

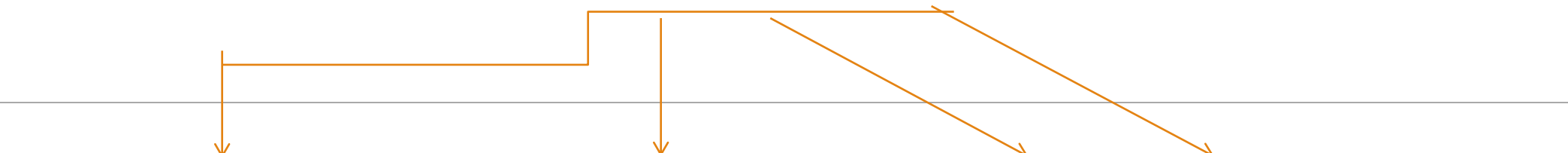
**EXHORTING:** Encourages Christians to grow spiritually by teaching, discipling, and counseling others

**GIVING:** Conserves and shares resources in order to meet needs.

**ORGANIZING:** Carries out projects by recruiting workers, organizing tasks, or delegating responsibilities

**MERCY:** Demonstrates God's love and compassion by responding to hurt

# Motivational Gifts



God works through the spiritual gifts in the Body of Christ to help the Church grow and remain healthy. By God's grace;

1. Prophets warn believers of sin.
2. Servers guard against slothfulness.
3. Teachers steer us clear of heresy.
4. Exhorters watch out for hopelessness.
5. Givers stand against selfishness.
6. Organizers ward off chaos.
7. Mercy-givers demonstrate God's tender love

# Ministry Gifts

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Ministry gifts are **the tools God uses to build up the Church**. They are practical, essential, can-do types of gifts such as those described in Ephesians 4:11-13:

<i>“He gave some,</i>	<i><b>Apostles;</b></i>
<i>and some,</i>	<i><b>Prophets;</b></i>
<i>and some,</i>	<i><b>Evangelists;</b></i>
<i>and some,</i>	<i><b>Pastors</b></i>
<i>and</i>	<i><b>Teachers;</b></i>

# Ministry Gifts

## Why Are These Gifts Given and Needed ?

*for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”*

(See also I Corinthians 12:27–31.)



# Ministry Gifts

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Are **often confirmed by ordination**. The Apostle Paul told Timothy, “Neglect not the gift that is in thee, *which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery*” (I Timothy 4:14).

# Manifestation Gifts

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**Manifestation gifts** are supernatural demonstrations of the Holy Spirit's presence and power.

The Spirit of God is the Source of these gifts, and they are manifested for the benefit of others and to bring God glory.

# Manifestation Gifts

*“The manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.*

*For to one is given by the Spirit*

- *the word of wisdom;*
- *to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;*
- *to another faith by the same Spirit;*
- *to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*
- *to another the working of miracles;*
- *to another prophecy;*
- *to another discerning of spirits;*
- *to another divers kinds of tongues;*
- *to another the interpretation of tongues:*
- *but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will” (I Corinthians 12:7–11).*

# Manifestation Gifts

## The Value of Understanding Spiritual Gifts

Knowing that each Christian has gift sets that are unique, valuable, and needed in the Body of Christ gives believers **purpose in God's kingdom.**

*“If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath **God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.** And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they **many members, yet but one body.**”*

# Manifestation Gifts

## The Value of Understanding Spiritual Gifts

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*And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. . . . There should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another” (I Corinthians 12:17–25).*

As we demonstrate the love of God through gifts that He has given us, we will experience **fulfillment and great joy**. We must understand our gifts that God has given to us is for his purpose, and to Glorify Him.

# Summary

- ☐ No argument will convert the soul of a darkened mind.
- ☐ Satan has blinded the minds of unbelievers. But God can and does penetrate the darkness with His glorious Gospel And He uses us to do it.
- ☐ We must seek God's wisdom and God's guidance on all of our fishing expeditions.
- ☐ We must know the fish that we are trying to catch, pray for the guidance and aid of the Holy Spirit, then offer the only effective bait; the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel the “good news” of Jesus Christ, has the power to change lives, shine light in darkness, and stop men and women from going to hell.

# Summary

## “FOLLOW ME”

In essence, Jesus was saying, “Learn about Me; Know and Understand My Mission and My Message. The message given to our Biblical brethren “Peter and Andrew” is still relevant for us today. We are charged to be **Fishers of Men**.