



The Spiritual Gift of Discernment

Definition

The gift of Discernment is the God-given ability to distinguish between truth and error. It is being able to discern the difference between good and evil, right and wrong, truth and deception.

Gifts in Action

While on a mission trip in Philippi, Paul met a slave girl who was earning money for her owner by predicting the future. Paul was able to discern that her ability was not from God but an evil spirit. This gift helped him expose the deception that led people to believe in fortunetelling and superstition.

Scripture References for Discernment

- 1 Corinthians 12:10
- Acts 5:1-4
- Romans 9:1

People With This Gift Like to...

- Identify deception in others with accuracy and appropriateness.
- Sense the presence of ungodly forces.
- Recognize inconsistencies in a biblical teaching or message.

Characteristics of People With Discernment

- Perceptive
- Insightful
- Intuitive
- Sensitive
- Truthful
- Decisive

Potential Ways to Use the Gift of Discernment

- Member of a decision-making team, committee, or board
- Church officer or board of directors member
- Counseling
- Advisor to those who make ministry decisions

RECOMMENDED READING:

Spiritual Discernment - Watchman Nee

The Discipline of Spiritual Discernment - Tim Challies