

# ABILITIES

By God's Design  
February 9, 2020

Introduction: All of us have abilities – gifts given to us by God. Someone once said, “Show me a person who does not know their gifts and I will show you a person who has little sense of their purpose, meaning, motivation and value.” While in many ways this is a harsh statement, it represents the many individuals who rarely take time to discover their God-given abilities. Our next circle on our Venn Diagram is Abilities. Through sermon and Life Group we hope you will take the time to discover your God-given gifts. Remember, it is a process.

Scripture Reading: Acts 15:36-40

## I. One's Abilities are Gifts from God

*As **each has received a gift**, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace (1 Peter 4:10).*

*...each has **his own gift from God**, one of one kind and one of another (1 Corinthians 7:7).*

***Do not neglect the gift** you have, which **was given you**... (1 Timothy 4:14a).*

## II. Our Abilities/Gifts are Linked to the Spirit of God

*<sup>2</sup> “See, I have called by name **Bezalel** the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, <sup>3</sup> and I have **filled him with the Spirit of God**, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, <sup>4</sup> to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, <sup>5</sup> in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft (Exodus 31:2–5).*

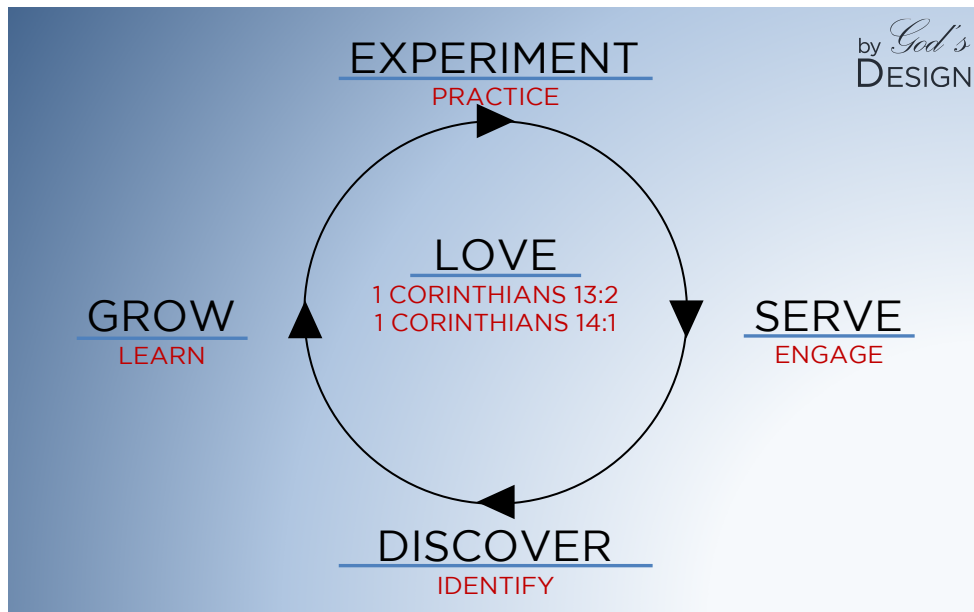
*Now there are **varieties of gifts**, but the same Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4).*

## III. Experiment Discover

*<sup>12</sup> When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of **John whose other name was Mark**, where many were gathered together and were praying. <sup>25</sup> And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them **John, whose other name was Mark** (Acts 12:12, 25).*

*<sup>36</sup> And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are.” <sup>37</sup> Now Barnabas wanted to take with them **John called Mark**. <sup>38</sup> But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had withdrawn from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. <sup>39</sup> And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. **Barnabas took Mark** with him and sailed away to Cyprus, <sup>40</sup> but **Paul chose Silas** and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord (Acts 15:36–40).*

Luke alone is with me (Paul). **Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry (2 Timothy 4:11).**



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- I. One's Abilities are Gifts from God (*1 Peter 4:10*) (*1 Corinthians 7:7*) (*1 Timothy 4:14a*)
- II. Our Abilities/Gifts are Linked to the Spirit of God (*Exodus 31:2–5*) (*1 Corinthians 12:4*)
- III. Experiment Discover (*Acts 12:12, 25*) (*Acts 15:36–40*) (*2 Timothy 4:11*)

