

## **Gifted**

### **Ready:**

*“Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit.”* – 1 Corinthians 12:4

### **Set**

How often do we hear athletes referred to as gifted? When that word is used, we usually think of a star player like Drew Brees, Mike Trout, or Kevin Durant. These athletes represent the best in their respective sport. Each is able to play the game at its highest level and excel. Gifted is defined as “having a natural ability; talented.” Nowhere in the definition does it mention that someone who is gifted is a star! The long snapper, pinch hitter, and sixth man coming off the bench are all gifted, but they usually are not the stars of team. Yet these athletes with their own particular gifts are needed to win championships.

The apostle Paul, with his sports-like mentality, understood that everyone isn’t gifted in the same way. He knew that various people with different gifts are necessary for building a championship team. Paul wanted his team—the Church—to be everything God called it to be. Paul was a star in growing God’s Kingdom, but so were other key players such as Andrew and Barnabas. Encouragers and those willing to bring others to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ are important in God’s plan, as well.

What gift has God given you? Great leadership? Wisdom? Concern and compassion for others? God is putting together a team of champions, and He is calling you to use the gifts you have been given.

### **Go**

1. What are your athletic gifts?
2. Would you consider yourself a star or role player?
3. How can your gifts best be used on your team? How can your gifts best be used to glorify God?

### **Workout**

1 Corinthians 14:12

Ephesians 4:8

Hebrews 2:4

### **Overtime**

*Heavenly Father, thank You for the gifts You have given me. Teach me to use them in ways that will honor You and bless others. Amen.*

**Bible Reference:**

1 Corinthians 14:12

Ephesians 4:8

Hebrews 2:4



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