



CAN A PERSON LOSE THEIR SPIRITUAL GIFT?



IDENTIFYING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

While there are many different spiritual gifts, the Bible tells us that each of these separate gifts have equal value in God's eyes (Romans 12:3-8).

But how do we know what gift God has given us? And how can we know how He wants us to use it?

The Holy Spirit is the one who empowers us with gifts, and He is ready to guide us in their proper use, if we ask. A heartfelt prayer for God's guidance is always the first step.

This point is illustrated in the story of Solomon, one of the famous kings of Israel. Solomon came to the throne when he was still young. One night, in a dream, God came to Solomon and asked what kind of blessing Solomon wanted from Him.

Solomon, rather than asking for great wealth or victory in battle, asked for understanding and the ability to discern between good and evil. God granted Solomon's request, blessing him with honor and wealth as well, and Solomon went on to become one of the wisest kings ever known (1 Kings 3:5-14).

After asking God for guidance with our spiritual gifts, it's a good idea to spend some time in reflection. What about your personality and behavior patterns might reveal some hidden or overlooked strengths?

As we pray daily, God may bring us into situations that help us discover the ways we're gifted.

We can also turn to trusted sources to help us on our journey as well. One idea is to ask the advice of those who are close to God, who we trust, and who know us well. They might be

able to point out things we excel at that we might have missed on our own.

But overall, we must keep our eyes open and be ready to hear God's voice. If someone needs help, we should be ready to lend a hand. The simple act of stepping in and helping someone can reveal the skills God gave us.

Our spiritual gifts can be a key component in our growth in Christ, and it only makes sense that we're supposed to use them responsibly. But what if we don't? What happens when we put our spiritual gifts toward selfish ambition, or choose not to use them at all?

In Matthew 25, Jesus told a parable about a master who had three servants. The master was going on a journey and wanted to make sure his money would be in good hands.

To the first servant, he entrusted five "talents," or units of money. To the second servant he gave two talents. To the third, he gave one. Then he went away.

While he was gone, the first two servants immediately set to work, putting their master's property to use. The servant with five talents made five more. The servant with two talents made two more. But the servant who had been given one talent went out, dug a hole, and buried his master's money.

When the master returned, he called his servants to him to find out what they'd done with his property while he was gone.

The first two servants came and presented themselves before him, showing their master how they had made good use of what he had given them, and the master praised them as "good and faithful servants."

Then the third servant explained that he knew the master stern and he didn't want to disappoint anyone or mess things up. So, since he didn't want to lose the property, he buried the one talent so nothing would happen to it.

The master was angry and rebuked the servant for being wicked and lazy. Then he took the servant's talent away and gave it to the one whom he had entrusted with five talents. Just like the servants in the story, we've all been entrusted with God-given talents and skills. It's up to us to make good use out of them, and God will help us along the way.

But if we sit on them, refusing to discover how God might use us, we might as well not have the gift at all.

We see a similar situation in the book of Numbers, dealing with a man named Balaam (Numbers 22-24). Balaam had the ability to pronounce blessings and curses on people. The king of Moab came to him and asked that Balaam pronounce a curse upon the children of Israel so that he could defeat them in battle.

God specifically told Balaam that he was not to do this, for God had blessed the children of Israel. Balaam ignored God's warnings and went all the same, but when he got to the place where the Israelites were camped, God caused him to speak only blessings. Balaam's spiritual gift was no longer under his control.

The story of the talents and the story of Balaam illustrate a very clear point. Our spiritual gifts come from God. If we take our talents, our spiritual gifts, and use them wisely, we are being good stewards of the gifts God gave us.

But if we misuse our talents, by spending them selfishly or hiding them away, then we're being just as lazy as the wicked servant. If that's the case, God may take our spiritual gifts and give them to someone who will use them.

But it's our choice. If we choose to use our spiritual gifts the way God calls us to, we can end up being an incredible blessing.

Scripture makes it clear time and again that God is the ultimate gift-giver (Luke 11:13). He knows us better than we know ourselves, and He wants us to be a blessing to the world.

The thought of possessing God-given abilities may seem intimidating, as if we're afraid we might use our gifts the wrong way.

Fortunately, however, God is the guide for our spiritual gifts. Since it is the Holy Spirit that empowers us with these abilities, we don't have to worry about our own insecurities or limitations. God can use a willing person for amazing things, simply because they have faith in Him.

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

The following is an excerpt from www.adventist.org/spiritual-gifts-and-ministries/



FROM THE EDITOR

Are you interested in writing the lead article for the Logos? Please send an email to lsturru@sbcadventist.org.bs



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS
NOVEMBER**

- 6 Essential Workers Sabbath
- 6 Remembrance Day of March
- 5-12 Week of Prayer
- 5-13 Diabetes Awareness Week
- 13-19 E-Youth Week of Prayer
- 19 International Men's Day (IMD)
- 19 Children's Day (Divine Services) Afternoon (Agape Praise)
- 20 Music Ministries
- 26 Monthly Baptism Day
- 26 Adventist Men Day
- 27 HIV/AIDS Awareness Day



Notice of the Sixth Quadrennial Session of the South Bahamas Conference

Notice is hereby given that the Sixth Quadrennial Session of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Hillview Seventh-day Adventist Church, #134 Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas on Sunday, November 13, 2022, and Monday, November 14, 2022.

Online registration will commence at 10:00 a.m. via the Conference's website on Monday, October 31, 2022, and will continue until 12:00 noon on Friday, November 11, 2022.

This session is called to:

1. Receive reports from the officers, departmental directors, and auditor.
2. Elect officers, departmental directors, and executive committee members for the next quadrennium.
3. Elect officers of the South Bahamas Conference Corporation.
4. Consider and vote on proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.
5. Transact such other business as shall be properly brought to the meeting.

All duly appointed delegates are invited to be present at this conference session.

By order,
Leonardo D. K. Rahming, (Pastor)
Executive Secretary.



**HEALTH MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENT**

Uchee Pines 6-day Virtual Wellness Conference. October 30 – November 4, 2022
Uchee Pines Institute is excited to offer a 6-day Virtual Wellness Conference that you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home. Learn

simple, effective, inexpensive ways to reverse diabetes, manage stress, create herbal preparations, cook healthfully, treat cancer, and much more with our doctors, lifestyle practitioners, and lifestyle counselors by joining a 6-day Virtual Wellness Conference. A small donation is required. For further details and registration click link

<https://www.ucheepines.org/events/virtual-wellness-conference>

- Mrs. Nathelyn LaCroix, Health Ministries Director.



**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENT
"The Pink Impact"
Cancer Awareness Initiatives
Individual Churches**

Remember to Pause & Pray with us in your virtual space each Wednesday at noon.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions or need additional information on any of our initiatives, kindly email us at SBCwomensministries@sbcadventist.org.bs --Mrs. Jacqueline Gibson, Women's Ministries Director.



PRAYER MINISTRIES

40 Days of Prayer for the Sixth Quadrennial Session of the South Bahamas Conference
Every member of the South Bahamas Conference is invited to participate in 40 days of prayer for the Sixth Quadrennial Session (November 13-14, 2022), as we seek to elect Conference leaders for the next 4 years. We commenced Day 1 - October 6 and will continue through to Day 40 – November 14. For the first 30 days we will have individual persons/churches/groups praying. For the last 10 days will hold joint SBC prayer sessions via Zoom inclusive of Week of Prayer (more details to come). Let's join in United Prayer! It works! See prayer focus points for the first 10 days on the Conference website. - Sister Joan Rahming, Prayer Ministries.



**YOUTH ANNOUCEMENTS
M.O.R.E. Of You For God's Glory
Youth Retreat Experience**

November 5, 2022 | 9:00a.m - 9:00p.m
Bahamas Youth Camp Site | Gladstone Road
Discover Your Lane In Ministry; Receive True Fulfillment With God
Food | True Colors Sessions | Bonfire Experience | Scavenger Hunt | Youth Social & more!
If You Have Any Questions Or Would Like To Know Information On Payment, Contact Miguel Scavella @ (242) 455-1565
--Pastor Jamal Franklyn, Youth Director.

**RETIREES' ASSOCIATION
MEETING NOTICE**

A general meeting of the Retirees' Association is scheduled to be held on Thursday 17, November 2022 at 11:00a.m at the Philadelphia Church, Elizabeth Estates.

At this meeting, the elections of new officers will take place. All members are encouraged to attend and to be financially current in order to participate in the voting process for the new officers. - Sis. Esther E. Vincent, Secretary/Treasurer.



**MONTHLY MEETING
ADVENTIST BURIAL SOCIETY**

The Burial Society will hold its regular monthly meeting on Monday November 7th, 2022, at 6:30 p.m at the Grant's Town Church Annex. Please note: We've had five (5) deaths for 2020, six (6) for 2021 and nine (9) for 2022. Members are encouraged to become financial and persons wishing to join the Society are invited to attend. -Elder R. Henry Moncur.



**AMR Music &
Eternal Pages Ministries**

Sunday - November 6, 2022 - GRAND YARD SALE @ the Old Bahamas Academy Grounds, Wulff Road - 8:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m. This effort will aid in community outreach efforts.

- Elder Roger & Mrs. Allison Rolle.



Please Email Weekly Announcements
To: sbclogos@gmail.com
Or logos@sbcadventist.org.bs
By Tuesday at 3:00p.m.

Visit the Conference website:
<http://southbahamasconference.org>
for the Logos publication archives & the ATV658 NEWS, as well as weekly programming.



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SUNSETS
Saturday November 12, 2022
@ 5:23p.m.

Have a Happy Sabbath!