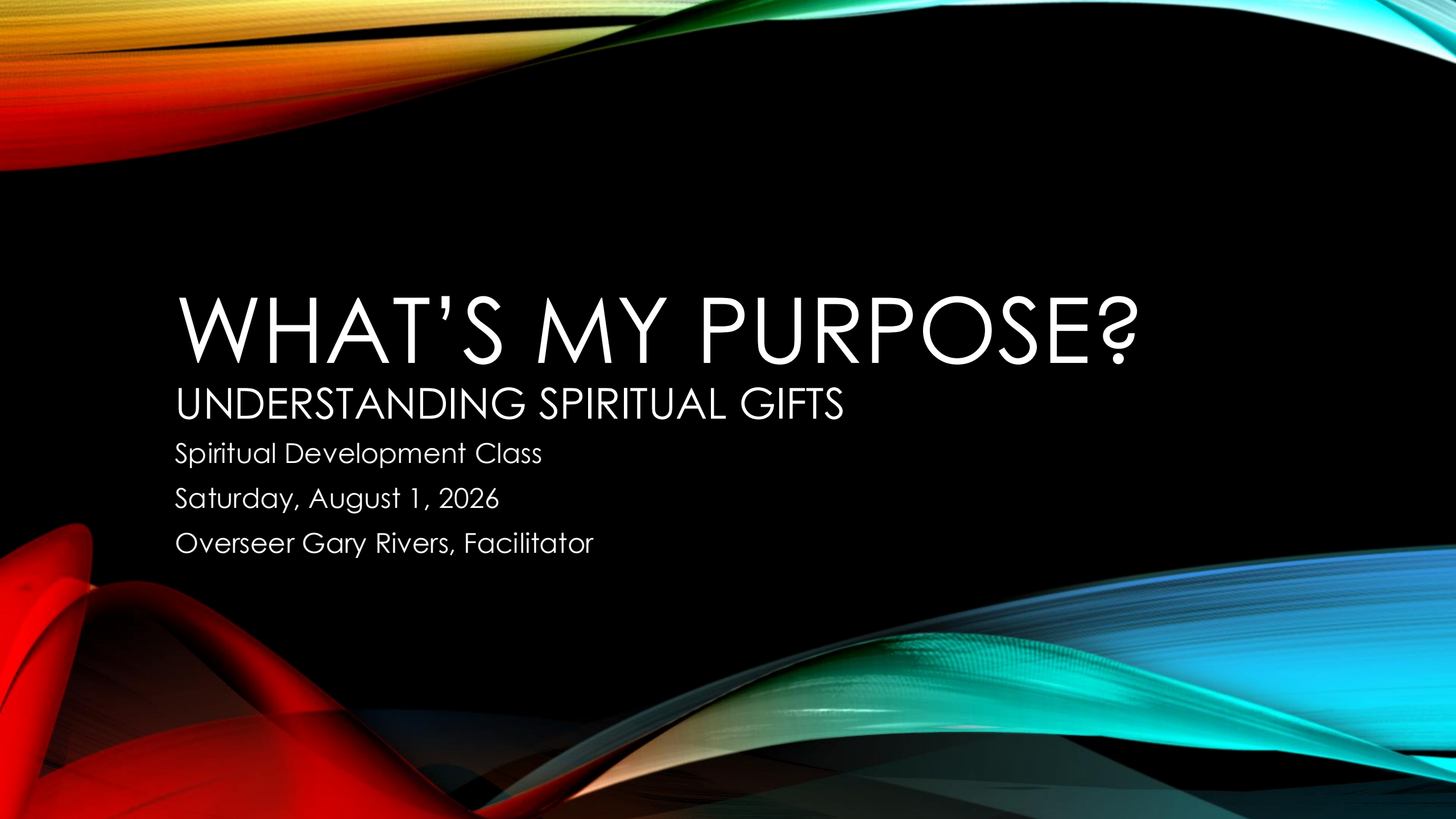




WHAT'S MY PURPOSE?

UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

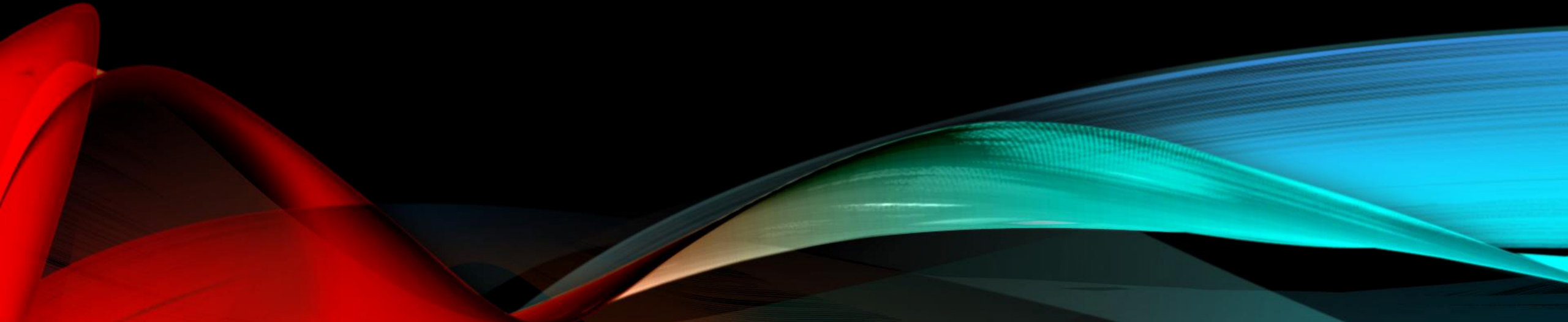
Spiritual Development Class

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Overseer Gary Rivers, Facilitator

SPIRITUAL GIFT TEST

ANSWER HONESTLY!

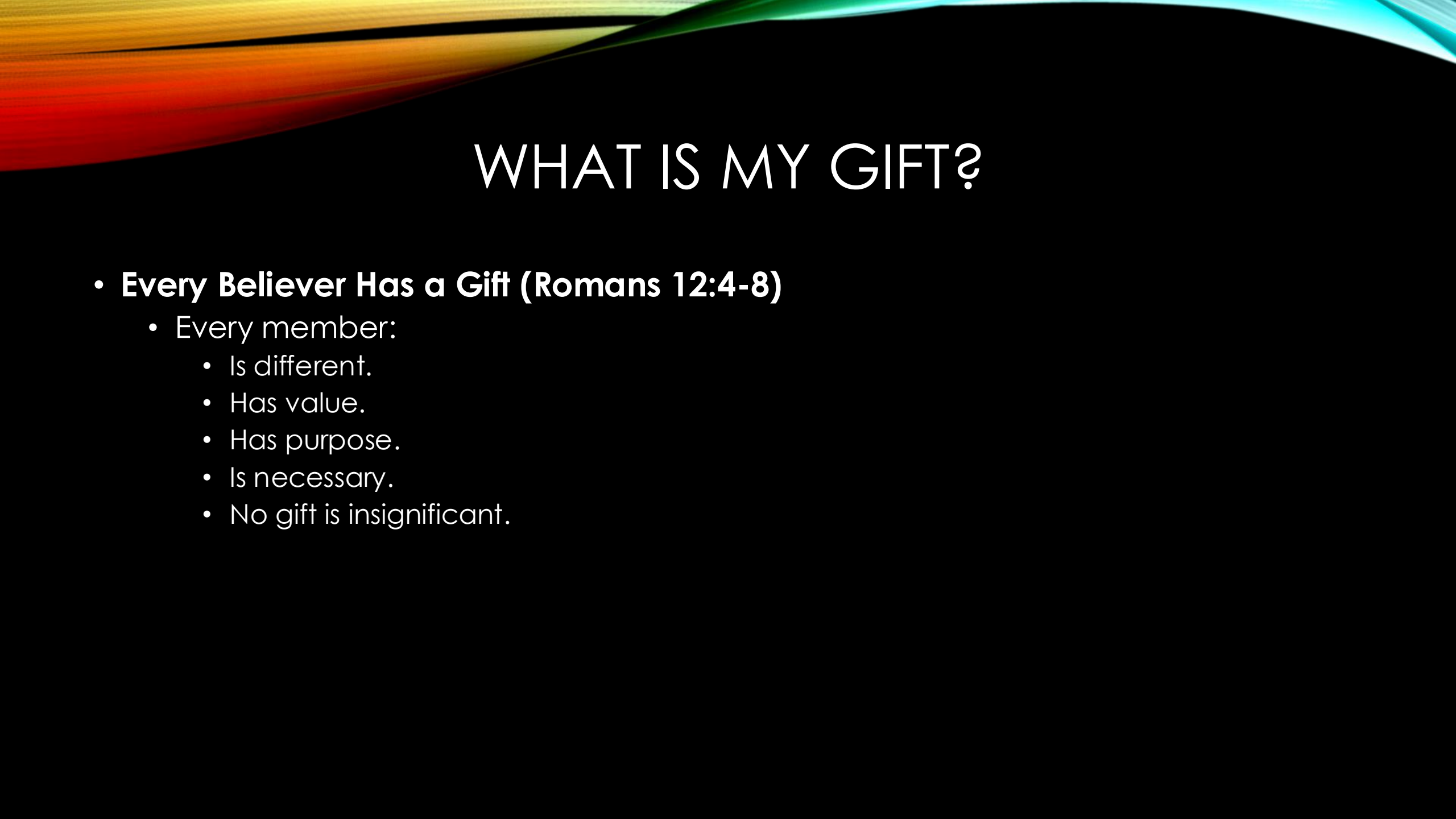


WHAT ARE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

- Spiritual gifts are supernatural abilities given by the Holy Spirit to believers for the purpose of serving God, strengthening the Church, and advancing His Kingdom. They are
 - a. Not natural talents
 - b. Not learned skills
 - c. Not rewards for holiness
 - d. Not signs of spiritual superiority
 - e. They are divine empowerments.
- Many believers know they are saved, but many never discover why God filled them with His Spirit.

WHY DOES GOD GIVE SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

- **For the Profit of Everyone (1 Corinthians 12:7)**
 - The gifts are given for the common good.
 - God never intended gifts for personal recognition.
- **To Build the Church (Ephesians 4:11-13)**
- The gifts help:
 - Equip believers
 - Mature the saints
 - Unite the church
 - Strengthen ministry
- **To Glorify God (1 Peter 4:11)**



WHAT IS MY GIFT?

- **Every Believer Has a Gift (Romans 12:4-8)**
 - Every member:
 - Is different.
 - Has value.
 - Has purpose.
 - Is necessary.
 - No gift is insignificant.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: REVELATION GIFTS

Word of Wisdom (1 Corinthians 12:8)

- A supernatural insight from God that provides the right course of action in a particular situation. It is not simply being intelligent or experienced; it is divine wisdom for a specific need.

Purpose

- Solve difficult situations.
- Guide God's people.
- Reveal God's direction.

Word of Knowledge (1 Corinthians 12:8)

- A supernatural revelation of facts that the person could not naturally know.

Purpose

- Reveal hidden truth.
- Confirm God's presence.
- Bring conviction or encouragement.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: REVELATION GIFTS

Discerning of Spirits (1 Corinthians 12:10)

- The God-given ability to recognize the spiritual source behind words, actions, teachings, or manifestations.
- This is not suspicion or criticism, it is spiritual discernment.

Purpose

- Protect the church from deception.
- Expose false teaching.
- Distinguish between the Holy Spirit, human influence, and evil spirits.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: POWER GIFTS (THE SPIRIT DEMONSTRATES)

Gift of Faith (1 Corinthians 12:9)

- A special measure of confidence in God's power and promises beyond ordinary faith, enabling someone to trust God for extraordinary situations.

Purpose

- Inspire courage.
- Trust God during impossible circumstances.
- Encourage the church.

Gifts of Healings (1 Corinthians 12:9)

- A supernatural ability through which God brings physical, emotional, or spiritual healing according to His will.

Purpose

- Demonstrate God's compassion.
- Confirm the gospel.
- Restore people.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: POWER GIFTS (THE SPIRIT DEMONSTRATES)

Working of Miracles (1 Corinthians
12:10)

- God works beyond natural laws through a believer to accomplish His purposes.
- **Purpose**
- Reveal God's power.
- Strengthen faith.
- Advance God's mission.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: INSPIRATIONAL GIFTS (THE SPIRIT SPEAKS)

Prophecy (1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:3)

- Speaking a message inspired by God that rebukes, strengthens, encourages, comforts, and call people back to God. While prophecy can include foretelling future events, much New Testament prophecy focuses on proclaiming God's truth for the present.

Purpose

- Edify & Encourage
- Exhort
- Comfort
- Call people back to God

Diverse Kinds of Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10)

- The supernatural ability to speak in a language not learned by the speaker.

Purpose

- Personal prayer and worship
- A sign in certain contexts
- Edify the church when interpreted.

The Difference

- 1) **Devotional Tongues – Personal (God & Man)**
- 2) **Ministry Tongues – Interpreter needed**
- 3) **Language Tongues – Different languages**

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: INSPIRATIONAL GIFTS (THE SPIRIT SPEAKS)

Interpretation of Tongues (1 Corinthians 12:10)

- The supernatural ability to communicate the meaning of a message given in tongues so that the congregation can understand and be edified.

Purpose

- Bring understanding.
- Build up the church.
- Keep worship orderly (1 Corinthians 14).

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: MINISTRY (SERVICE) GIFTS

Teaching (Romans 12:7)

- The ability to explain and apply God's Word accurately so that others understand and grow.

Purpose

- Establish believers in truth.
- Guard against error.
- Promote spiritual maturity.

Exhortation (Encouragement) (Romans 12:8)

- The ability to encourage, strengthen, comfort, and motivate believers to remain faithful to God.

Purpose

- Restore hope.
- Inspire faithfulness.
- Strengthen discouraged believers.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: MINISTRY (SERVICE) GIFTS

Giving (Romans 12:8)

- The Spirit-enabled ability to give generously, joyfully, and wisely to support God's work and care for others.

Purpose

- Advance ministry.
- Meet needs.
- Reflect God's generosity.

Leadership (Ruling) (Romans 12:8)

- The God-given ability to guide, organize, and lead people toward God's purposes with diligence and humility.

Purpose

- Provide direction.
- Maintain order.
- Equip others for ministry.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: MINISTRY (SERVICE) GIFTS

Mercy (Romans 12:8)

- A special sensitivity to the suffering of others, accompanied by a desire to help with compassion and joy.

Purpose

- Reflect God's compassion.
- Care for the hurting.
- Bring comfort and healing.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY

Apostle

- One who is sent with authority to establish, strengthen, and oversee churches and ministries. The New Testament uses the term in different ways, including the unique, foundational apostles who witnessed the risen Christ and others sent out for missionary work.

Purpose

- Plant & Rebuild churches
- Strengthen believers
- Lay doctrinal foundations
- Equip leaders

Prophet

- One who consistently speaks God's message with clarity, calling people to faithfulness, repentance, encouragement, and obedience. A prophetic ministry should always be tested against Scripture (1 Thessalonians 5:20–21).

Purpose

- Speak God's truth.
- Encourage and strengthen the church.
- Call believers to holiness.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY

Evangelist

- A person especially gifted to proclaim the gospel clearly and effectively, leading others to faith in Christ.

Purpose

- Win souls.
- Share the gospel.
- Equip others in evangelism.

Pastor (Shepherd)

- A shepherd who lovingly cares for, feeds, protects, and guides God's people.

Purpose

- Care for believers.
- Provide spiritual oversight.
- Nurture growth and unity.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS: FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY

Teacher

- A ministry devoted to explaining God's Word accurately and helping believers apply it faithfully. While "teaching" appears in Romans 12 as a spiritual gift, Ephesians 4 highlights teachers as one of Christ's equipping ministries.

Purpose

- Build biblical understanding.
- Protect sound doctrine.
- Equip believers to live God's Word.

NO SPIRITUAL GIFT IS SUPERIOR TO ANOTHER. PAUL TEACHES THAT THE CHURCH IS LIKE ONE BODY WITH MANY MEMBERS (1 CORINTHIANS 12:12–27). EVERY GIFT, WHETHER VISIBLE OR BEHIND THE SCENES, IS ESSENTIAL TO THE HEALTH OF CHRIST'S CHURCH. THE HIGHEST GOAL IS NOT TO POSSESS THE MOST SPECTACULAR GIFT, BUT TO EXERCISE WHATEVER GIFT GOD HAS GIVEN IN **LOVE** (1 CORINTHIANS 13), FOR THE **EDIFICATION OF THE CHURCH** (1 CORINTHIANS 14:12), AND TO THE **GLORY OF GOD** (1 PETER 4:11).

