

## *Word Gifts Definitions*

**Teaching** is the supernatural “ability to instruct, explain, or expose [Scripture] in such a way as to cause believers to understand the Biblical truth.” J. ROBERT CLINTON

**Exhortation** is the “capacity to urge people to action in terms of applying Biblical truths, to encourage people generally with Biblical truths or to comfort people through the application of Biblical truth to their needs.” J. ROBERT CLINTON

**Apostleship** is the “special ability to assume and exercise general leadership over a number of churches (or Christian organizations) with an extraordinary authority in spiritual matters that is spontaneously recognized and appreciated.” PETER WAGNER

*week six*  
OCTOBER 29

# convergence

EMPOWERED FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY

*The Word Gifts – Part I*

## DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERVICE?

You can watch all past messages on our YouTube channel  
[www.youtube.com/@thisiscompass](https://www.youtube.com/@thisiscompass) or you can listen to our podcast  
[at www.thisiscompass.com/podcast](https://www.thisiscompass.com/podcast).

## CONNECT (BUILD RELATIONSHIPS)

Word gifts clarify the nature, action and purposes of God. (**Teaching, Exhortation/Encouragement, Apostleship**, Leadership/Ruling, Shepherding/Pastoring, Evangelism)

1. If you're wondering if one of these gifts are part of your gift mix and/or if you exercised one or more of these gifts this past week, explain your experience to the group or a friend so that they can confirm your gifting.
  
2. What are some ways in which the idea of Convergence is changing the way you view the Church and even your part in it?
  
3. Paul is a biblical example of a teacher. Barnabas and Agabus are examples of the gift of exhortation. John the disciple is an example of one with the gift of apostleship. Consider the Bible examples and brainstorm how Jesus might have used any of the spiritual Word gifts.

## THRIVE (EXPLORE BIBLICAL TRUTH)

4. Read 1 Corinthians 12:27-31. What is the expected answer to each of the seven questions Paul included? Why? How would you summarize these five verses in one sentence?
  
5. If the mixed listing of the gifts here and in other passages isn't about order of importance, what do the mixed lists tell us about the spiritual gifts in the church?

6. Read Ephesians 4:11-12. Discuss how the natural or learned ability to teach is different from the spiritual gift of teaching.
  
7. Read Romans 12:6-8. Who do you know that has any of the Word gifts included in the Word gift category? How can you encourage those you know who may have these gifts this week?

## COMMIT (BE ON MISSION)

8. Read through the definitions (back page). Do you find yourself resonating with one or more of these Word gifts? Who else do you know has these gifts? Where might you serve others through this gift in our church, in your family, or neighbourhood?
  
9. Pray that the Lord will help you and others you know to clarify and confirm each other's spiritual gifts. Pray that his Spirit will empower people to use their gifts to serve one another and for the common good of the whole church.

### PAUSE, PONDER & PRAY

"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction."  
2 TIMOTHY 4:2-4