



As believers in Jesus Christ we have all been given gifts. The Bible speaks of these as *spiritual gifts* which are God's gifts to us to share with others.

Peter Wagner defines a spiritual gift as:

a special attribute given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the body of Christ according to God's grace for use within the context of the Body.

Another way of saying this is, the spiritual gifts are the gifts God gives others through us.

Spiritual gifts are given to us for a purpose.

1 Corinthians 12:7

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

Romans 12:4-8

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.

Ephesians 4:11-13

According to the Apostle Paul, the ultimate goal of discovering and using our spiritual gifts is maturity in the Lord.

Spiritual Gifts are listed in a number of places in the Bible. Take a quick look at the spiritual gifts mentioned in these passages to give you an idea of the many ways God has gifted His people for His work. This is not a complete list but shows the variety of gifts God has given for ministry in the body of Christ and extending the kingdom of God.

Romans 12:6-8

Prophecy
Serving others
Teaching
Encourage
Giving
Leadership
Mercy - showing kindness to others

1 Corinthians 13:3

Acts 2:44-45

Love

Share possessions—sell possessions and share with those in need

1 Corinthians 12:28

Apostle
Prophet
Teach
Do miracles
Gift of healing
Help others
Get others to work together
Speak in unknown languages

1 Corinthians 12:8-10

Give wise advice - wisdom
Special knowledge
Faith
Heal the sick
Perform miracles - miraculous powers
Discernment between spirits
Speak in tongues
Interpret tongues
Prophecy

Ephesians 4:11

Apostles
Prophets
Evangelists
Teachers
Pastors

1 Peter 4:9-10

Hospitality

Exodus 31:1-11

Psalms 149:3

Craftsman

Dancing—creative arts

1 Timothy 2:1-2

Prayer
Intercession
Thanksgiving

Psalms 149-150

Praise
Music

Spiritual Gifts

Look at your Spiritual Gifts Survey scoring sheet. List the five with the highest totals and read the descriptions in the next section.

- Which ones seem like a fit to you?
- Which ones surprise you?
- If you wish, read descriptions for others that scored high, but weren't in your top five.

Select up to five that you think best represent your gifts at this time. Transfer to your SHAPE for ministry figure.

Spiritual Gifts

1. **Administration** - 1 Corinthians 12:28; Acts 14:23, Acts 6:1-7, Exodus 18:13-26

The gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose.

People with this Gift:

Develop strategies or plans to reach identified goals

Assist ministries to become more effective and efficient

Organize people, tasks or events

Manage or coordinate a variety of responsibilities to accomplish a task

2. **Apostleship** - Ephesians 4:11,12, 1 Corinthians 12:28-29

The ability to build spiritual foundations for the ministry of the church by calling non-Christians to obedience and equipping the saints with the full authority and oversight from God. (While the "office" of apostle no longer exists, the "role" of apostle continues today)

People with this Gift:

Help to pioneer and establish new ministries and churches

Desire to minister to unreached people in the community and beyond

Help to oversee ministries or groups of churches

Demonstrate vision/or the mission of the church

3. **Artistry** - Exodus 31:1-11, Psalm 149a

The gift that gives the believer the skill of creating artistic expressions that produce a spiritual response of strength and inspiration.

People with this Gift:

Help to create banners and displays to inspire worship

Create and design props and sets for worship and drama

Develop visuals for worship that help people to draw closer to God

Are gifted in helping to decorate and coordinate colors and objects to illustrate a theme

4. **Craftsmanship** - Exodus 31:33, Acts 9:36-39, 2 Kings 22:5-6

The ability to creatively design and or construct items to be used for ministry (wood, fabric, paints, metal glass) Skilled with their hands.

People with this Gift:

Are skilled with their hands and able to make things which can be used for ministry

Design and build tangible items for use in other ministries

Enjoy serving with their hands to meet others needs

Are handy and resourceful and often work behind the scenes

5. **Discernment** - 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 John 16:6-15

The ability to distinguish between truth and error, ability to help the body understand God's will.

People with this Gift:

Are able to perceive truth from error

They are sensitive to what is authentic and true

Are insightful and can help guide a process of discernment

Are intuitive to the presence of evil

6. Evangelism - Ephesians 4:11; Acts 2:36-40

The gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they accept Christ and become active members of the body of Christ.

People with this Gift:

Seek out opportunities to speak to unbelievers about their faith

Are able to influence others to consider following Jesus Christ

Are able to build relationships with unbelievers so as to win them to Jesus Christ

Speak the message of the gospel with clarity and conviction

7. Exhortation (encouragement) - Romans 12:6-8; 2 Timothy 1:16-18

The ability to present truth so as to encourage, strengthen, comfort or urge to action those who are discouraged or wavering in faith.

People with this Gift:

Comfort and support those going through difficult times

Motivate and affirm others to depend on God

Stimulate others to grow through affirmation and encouragement

Call others to look to God/or strength in time of need.

8. Faith - 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Mark 5:24-34

The ability to act on God's promises with confidence and unwavering belief in God's ability to fulfill his purposes.

People with this Gift:

Ask God for what is needed and trust him for his provision

Show to others an attitude of trust in God's will and his promises

Inspire others to believe the promises of God and trust them as well

Display a confidence in God and a willingness to move ahead when others do not

9. Giving - Romans 12:6-8, 2 Corinthians 6:8, Luke 21:1-4

The enablement to contribute money and resources to the work of the church.

People with this Gift:

Provide resources generously and cheerfully trusting God for his provision

Support the church and the needs of others in ministry through sacrificial gifts

Manage their own finances and limit their lifestyle in order to give as much of their resources as possible.

May have a special ability to make money so that they can be generous in giving to the work God is doing.

10. Healing -1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28, 30, Acts 3:1-16, Mark 2:1-12

The enablement to be God's means for restoring people to wholeness

People with this Gift:

Pray, touch or speak to others that miraculously bring healing to one's body

Through their lives demonstrate the power a/God to bring restoration to the sick and diseased.

Trust in God and humbly allow God to use them to display God's power and love through the demonstration of healing

Are full of faith and willing to be obedient to God to pray for others, believing God will be glorified through healing.

11. Helps - 1 Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7

The ability to unselfishly meet the needs of others, freeing them to exercise their spiritual gifts or have their needs met

People with this Gift:

Are willing to help with practical tasks whenever and wherever needed

Enjoy doing tangible and practical things

Sense God's purpose and pleasure in doing things that enable others to fulfill their ministry

Are dependable and available to serve behind the scenes for the cause of the kingdom

12. Hospitality - 1 Peter 4:9-10, Romans 12:13, Hebrews 13:1-2

The ability to care for people by providing fellowship, food and shelter.

People with this Gift:

Meet new people and help them feel welcomed

Provide an atmosphere where people feel included and cared for

See people who are on the edge of the circle and invite them in to the circle for fellowship and friendship

Like to include people and help them to feel comfortable in a new setting

13. Intercession - 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Romans 8:26-27, John 17:9-26 ‘

The ability to consistently pray on behalf of others and for others seeing frequent and specific results

People with this Gift:

Feel led to earnestly pray for someone or some cause

Are regularly praying for people and needs and make time to pray for special needs

Are convinced that God moves in response to specific prayer

Have the awareness of needs and are led at special times to pray for persons in their struggles

14. Knowledge - 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Mark 2:6-8, John 1:45-50

The gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith.

People with this Gift:

Have insight or understanding that serves the church

Search the scriptures for insight and understanding

Reflect on situations gaining knowledge which was not attained by natural observation

Organize information for teaching and practical use

15. Leadership - Romans 12:8; John 21:15-17

The gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction, and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task.

People with this Gift:

Provide direction for people in ministry

Are able to influence and motivate others to move in a certain direction

Take responsibility and set goals for the people

Have credibility with people and keep an eye to the "big picture"

16. Mercy - Romans 12:6-8; Luke 10:25-37

The gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual or emotional need and then act to meet that need.

People with this Gift:

Concern themselves with alleviating the suffering and discomfort of others

Serve in difficult situations with hurting people and do so cheerfully

Have compassion for lonely and forgotten people

Care about individual or social issues that oppress people

17. Musical Gifts - Psalm 149-150

The gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present inspiration and witness to others through singing or playing an instrument.

People with this Gift:

Use music to glorify God and to communicate God's truth

Have found that through music they have been able to lead persons into a deeper experience of worship

Inspire others to a relationship with God through playing and singing the message of the gospel

Do not seek their own glory from their gift but are used to build others up and encourage them through music.

18. Pastoring - Ephesians 4:11; 2 Timothy 4:1-2, 1 Peter 5:1-3

(shepherding) The gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers.

People with this Gift:

Are able to provide care, guidance and oversight for a group of persons

Derive great strength from helping and supporting others

Love to be with and minister to people

Establish trust and confidence through developing long-term relationships

19. Prophecy - Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:10,28, 13:2, 2 Peter 1:19-21

The ability to reveal truth and proclaim it in a timely and relevant manner for understanding, correction, repentance or edification.

People with this Gift:

Speak for the cause of God about future events and present situations

Warn of God's immediate or future judgment if there is no repentance

Speak a timely word from God causing conviction, repentance and edification

See truth that others often fail to see and challenge them to respond

20. Service - Romans 12:6-8

The ability to identify unmet needs in the body of Christ and beyond, and to use whatever resources necessary to practically meet those needs.

People with this Gift:

Love to serve others without receiving any public thanks

Are able to see needs arising before others see them

Go out of their way to offer practical solutions to problems

Are energized when they can cleanup or assist in a servant way

21. Teaching - 1 Corinthians 12:28; Romans 12:6-8

The gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others.

People with this Gift:

Have a strong desire to communicate biblical truth

Communicate truth so that people learn and remember what was conveyed

Are able to pull together insights so that the presentation is clear and insightful

Challenge listeners simply and practically with the truth of the scriptures

22. Voluntary Poverty - 1 Corinthians 13:3, Acts 2:44-45

The capacity to live in low economic status in order to identify with and minister to the poor and oppressed more effectively

People with this Gift:

Are willing to share freely of their possessions with those who have little

Have made a commitment to live a simple life and to share what they have with others even though they could afford to live differently

Give of themselves and their time to people who live in oppressed places

Have a burden for the poor in other parts of our world and choose to identify with them through their lifestyle

23. Wisdom - 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

The gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solutions would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers.

People with this Gift:

Apply spiritual knowledge in practical ways

Can offer accurate insights to people on spiritual issues

Offer practical, helpful solutions

Hear the Spirit provide direction for God's best in a given situation

Note: The spiritual gifts of *Tongues* (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28-30), *Interpretation of Tongues* (1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:5, 14:26-28) and *Miracles* (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28-29) are not included in the Spiritual Gift Assessment because their presence in the life of a believer tends to be self-evident, and in many cases needs confirmation by witnesses.

Further Resources for Study of Spiritual Gifts:

Bugbee, Bruce. What You Do Best in the Body of Christ. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995.

Ford, Paul R. Unleash Your Church! Pasadena, CA: Charles E. Fuller Institute, 1993

Wagner, C. Peter Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1979