

The Spiritual Gifts Inventory

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A Personal, Self-Evaluating Inquiry Into
the New Testament Teaching about the
Gifts of the Holy Spirit

*Before you turn the page and begin: **Read this carefully***

Each of the questions on the following two pages is designed to evaluate a specific spiritual gift.

Read each question thoughtfully, then circle the number that indicates the **DEGREE** to which the statement is TRUE or FALSE in your life.

It is important that you circle a number for every question as follows:

- ① If it is **always** or **completely false**
- ② If it is **usually** or mostly **false**
- ③ If it is **occasionally** or partially **true or false**
- ④ If it is **usually** or mostly **true**
- ⑤ If it is **always** or **completely true**

If this evaluation is really to benefit you, you will need to be absolutely honest in every response! When you have answered all the questions, follow the instructions on the third page on how to evaluate your responses.

Do not read ahead; take just one page at a time.

One final note before you begin. This investigation into your spiritual gifts will evaluate your past and present experiences more than your hopes and desires for the future. For this reason it will speak more intimately to those who have been members of the Lord's family for some months or more than to those who are recently "new born" in Jesus. So if you have only recently accepted the Lord, try to think of the questions in anticipation rather than what you have already experienced.

You may turn the page and continue.....

Spiritual Gifts Inventory Questions

| | <- false | true-> |
|--|----------|----------------|
| 1. I feel very comfortable directing activities involving people. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 2. I have been called directly by God to hold a highly responsible position of leadership among God's people. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 3. I can discern the motives of most people. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 4. I find it easy to ask someone to make a decision for Jesus. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| <u>5. When someone is hurting, I am able to say something that genuinely comforts.</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 3 4 5</u> |
| 6. Even when God's will is not clear to me, I still step out in faith. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 7. In an appeal for a worthy cause, I'm among the first to give. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 8. I prefer to busy myself "behind the scenes" at a social gathering. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 9. I enjoy helping people by having them home for meals. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| <u>10. Most of my "prayer time" is spent dealing with the needs of others.</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 3 4 5</u> |
| 11. Salvation by faith alone is a truth I clearly understand. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 12. When faced with a complex problem, I am able to identify the key factors that will lead to a solution. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 13. I would have felt it totally worthwhile to be one of the five missionaries killed while taking the Gospel to the Auca Indians. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 14. Helping society's outcasts, like drunks and addicts, would or does bring me great satisfaction. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 15. Living in rather primitive circumstances in a foreign country would not worry me as long as I could share the Gospel. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 16. I'm excited about visiting church members in their homes on a regular basis. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 17. People in trouble are encouraged when I talk with them. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 18. I feel very much at home leading out in any Bible-teaching setting. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 19. If someone is emotionally upset, I can explain why they are upset and what they should do. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| <u>20. There is a good spirit of unity and enthusiasm when I'm in charge.</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 3 4 5</u> |
| 21. I resolve "people" or relational problems in ways that make those affected feel special. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 22. I'm usually consulted when matters of doctrine are being discussed. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 23. I can tell when a person is being influenced more by the Lord or by Satan. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 24. Regularly, I have the privilege of leading souls to Jesus. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| <u>25. I am often asked to help those in trouble resolve their problems.</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 3 4 5</u> |
| 26. I have complete faith the Lord will work out every problem that comes my way. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 27. I keep my purchases to a minimum when appeals are made for others. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 28. When asked to help, even if I'm busy, I try to help. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 29. I always make it a point to greet strangers, and when it's appropriate, I invite them home. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| <u>30. People in need regularly come to my mind, and I take their needs to God in prayer.</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2 3 4 5</u> |
| 31. With the help of appropriate study materials, I can find what God's Word teaches on most topics. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 32. The idea of dying for my faith does not frighten me. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 33. I am extremely sensitive to the needs of the handicapped and enjoy talking with them and offering my help. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 34. I could cope with separation from loved ones in order to share the gospel in a foreign land. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |
| 35. It does, or I believe it would, bring great satisfaction to occupy the same pulpit each week of the year. | 1 | 2 3 4 5 |

Spiritual Gifts Inventory Questions, Page 2

| | <- false true-> |
|---|-----------------|
| 36. People often tell me, "God used you. You dealt exactly with my need." | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 37. I can prepare a logical class outline for a Bible class. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 38. I know when to take a uncompromising stand, and when to take a middle course between alternate positions. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 39. I'm happy to accept the loneliness that comes with leadership. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 40. When leaders are being chosen, my opinions are normally sought. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 41. If someone came and asked me for money, I would know if the person really needed help or was a fraud. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 42. People under conviction seek me out and ask how they should surrender their lives to Jesus. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 43. People in need of good advice ask me for it. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 44. I take God's promises at face value and believe them even if the fulfillment seems impossible. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 45. If I totaled my personal and church contributions, they would probably equal a fifth or more of my income. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 46. If a church or community leader asked me to do a menial task like sweeping a sidewalk, I'd be delighted to do it. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 47. There are often a good number of people at our home for lunch after church service. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 48. I have a long and growing list of people whom I remember in prayer. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 49. I am perfectly at ease answering anyone's Bible questions. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 50. I have the ability to develop progressive programs and see them through to a successful conclusion. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 51. If a civil court sentenced me to death for preaching the gospel I'd be content to die for the Lord. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 52. I'd be very willing to help a shoddily dressed drunk across a busy intersection. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 53. I could happily adapt to the culture of another country if called to minister there. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 54. I see myself as a "shepherd" in my church with a total dedication to the welfare of all the "sheep." | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 55. God uses me to lift the spirits of the discouraged. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 56. Bible teachings come quickly to mind when I deal with a problem. | 1 2 3 4 5 |
| 57. I can predict with unusual accuracy the long-term results of a decision. | 1 2 3 4 5 |

How to evaluate your responses:

Check back and make sure you have circled a number for every one of the 57 questions.

Following is a score sheet for this test. You will notice that this sheet has 57 spaces. Note the number you circled for question 1, and write that number in the first space. Note the number you circled for question 2, and write that number in the second square, and so on until you have placed a number in each of the 57 squares on the chart.

Then add the numbers from left to right. That is, add together the number in square 1, plus the number in square 20, plus the number in square 39. Write the total in the square headed "Total," as illustrated.

When all the scores are totaled, scan down the list and circle the highest scores. There will probably be a cluster of from two to four that are quite close together. Think for a moment about the gifts you have just circled, the ones with the highest scores. Which one would you like to consider FIRST for further study and experimentation? Place a check beside that gift on the score sheet.

EXAMPLE

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|----|----------|----|----------|-------|-----------|--------|
| 19 | 4 | 38 | 5 | 57 | 4 | Total | 13 | Wisdom |
|----|----------|----|----------|----|----------|-------|-----------|--------|

Name _____

| | | | | Total | Gift |
|----|----|----|--|-------|----------------|
| 1 | 20 | 39 | | | Administration |
| 2 | 21 | 40 | | | Apostleship |
| 3 | 22 | 41 | | | Discernment |
| 4 | 23 | 42 | | | Evangelism |
| 5 | 24 | 43 | | | Exhortation |
| 6 | 25 | 44 | | | Faith |
| 7 | 26 | 45 | | | Giving |
| 8 | 27 | 46 | | | Helps |
| 9 | 28 | 47 | | | Hospitality |
| 10 | 29 | 48 | | | Intercession |
| 11 | 30 | 49 | | | Knowledge |
| 12 | 31 | 50 | | | Leadership |
| 13 | 32 | 51 | | | Martyrdom |
| 14 | 33 | 52 | | | Mercy |
| 15 | 34 | 53 | | | Missionary |
| 16 | 35 | 54 | | | Pastoring |
| 17 | 36 | 55 | | | Prophecy |
| 18 | 37 | 56 | | | Teaching |
| 19 | 38 | 57 | | | Wisdom |

Finally:

Place in the spaces below the gifts on which you scored the highest. You will probably find two to four scores that are quite close together. This is your *probable* “gift cluster.”

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Also, add below any gifts you thought you had, even if the scores were not among the highest. These need further consideration along with those listed above.

5. _____ 6. _____

You have just taken an important step in discovering your spiritual gift or gifts. *But a test can only indicate areas of high probability.* It does not mean for certain that these are your gifts. You now need to go further to confirm what gifts God has given you for use in His service. These would include such important activities as daily prayer and a study of the New Testament chapters dealing with spiritual gifts. Hopefully, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, you will do all this and more.

The data from more than 2000 Christians whose responses have been analyzed suggests that any score below 9 represents such a low probability of giftedness in any area that it ought not to be considered positively at this time.

Gifts mentioned in the New Testament but not included in this evaluation are: healing, miracles, tongues, interpretation of tongues, celibacy, voluntary poverty, and exorcism. These gifts are so spectacular or obvious that those who have them do not need help in recognizing the fact! But they would still need the affirmation of the other members of the local congregation in their appropriate use.

How to discover your Spiritual Gifts

- Pray earnestly that God will reveal them to you.
- Consider the desires of your heart.
- Get active in the work of God.
- Listen to comments of Christian friends; someone else should be able to recognize your gifts.
- Evaluate your success.

Results of discovering your Spiritual Gifts

- You will know God’s will for your life and where you best fit into the work of the church.
- You will know better how to cope with diversity and conflict in personal relationships.
- You will have a greater sense of identity and partnership with Jesus.
- You will have greater joy in service for the Lord because you will be matched to the work you enjoy most.
- You will be better equipped to win your friends and relatives to Jesus.

List of Spiritual Gifts

- 1) **Administration**– The ability to organize, manage, and supervise working with and through others to achieve goals. Its meaning is “to steer,” as the helmsman or pilot of a ship. The ability to plan and launch projects, to meet the needs of God’s cause.
- 2) **Apostleship**– This is a title not normally used in church today. However, it means to be sent out, especially commissioned to represent the church in a broader ministry. This gift may be represented today by the spirit-given ability to begin the work that may lead to new churches being established.
- 3) **Discernment**– The analytical capacity to discern between truth and error, right and wrong.
- 4) **Evangelism**– The ability to so persuasively present the gospel of Jesus that people are led to become His disciples.
- 5) **Exhortation**– This word is derived from the same word that Jesus used for the Comforter (Holy Spirit), one who comes alongside to encourage. Also, it is the ability to stimulate people to action in the service of God.
- 6) **Faith**– The ability to see a vision of what God wants done and the unswerving confidence to accomplish it regardless of the obstacles.
- 7) **Giving**– The ability to share personal assets with joy and eagerness so that people are helped and God’s work is advanced.
- 8) **Helps**– The ability to unselfishly meet the needs of others through some type of practical help. The exercise of this gift often releases those with teaching and preaching gifts to minister the word of God.
- 9) **Hospitality**– The ability to open one’s home graciously so that guests are put at ease and are refreshed both physically and spiritually.
- 10) **Intercession**– The practice of praying earnestly and sincerely on behalf of others and their special needs.
- 11) **Knowledge**– The ability to easily master a body of truth. It is also the ability to store and recall a fund of knowledge from God’s Word to meet the need at hand.
- 12) **Leadership**– The ability to inspire and lead others in various ministries within the body of Christ. This gift is exercised with the attitude of a servant.
- 13) **Serving**– The unusual desire and capacity to render service to others.
- 14) **Mercy**– The capacity to feel sympathy with those in need (especially those who are suffering and miserable) and to manifest this sympathy in some practical way with a cheerful spirit so as to encourage and help those in need.
- 15) **Missionary**– The ability to minister across cultures.
- 16) **Pastoring**– (Shepherding) The ability to shepherd, counsel, and encourage believers in their walk with Christ and in their service to the church and community.
- 17) **Prophecy**– Primarily this refers to the gift bestowed on one who is called to receive divine revelation from God to be communicated to man. Secondly, to the capacity to preach so that the Bible comes alive to the hearer.
- 18) **Teaching**– The ability to instruct and explain the Bible truths so clearly in such a detailed way that those willing to learn will understand.
- 19) **Wisdom**– The ability to penetrate into a matter, seeing the situation in its larger relationships, and imparting wise counsel from God’s Word.

Community Outreach Programming Ideas:

1. Recreation
 - Bicycle Events
 - Olympic Day
 - Aquatic Events
 - Recreation Leagues
2. Community Physical Projects
 - Plant Trees and Flowers
 - Painting Projects
 - Neighborhood Programs
 - Wash Public Vehicles
3. Health
 - Walk-a-thon
 - Environmental Projects
 - Meals on Wheels
 - Blood Drives
4. Christian Personal Service
 - Adopt a Grandparent
 - Assist Single Parents
 - Volunteer for Voting Days
 - Homeless Programs
5. Church Physical Projects
 - Paint rooms
 - Janitor for a Week
 - Landscaping Public School
 - Build Sabbath School Props
6. Temperance/Health
 - Temperance Contest
 - Youth-to-Youth
 - Seminars
 - Special Day/Fair Events
7. Reaching Non-churched
 - Community Surveys
 - Baby-sitting Handicapped
 - Yard Work
 - Puppet Ministry
8. Fellowship
 - Christian Party for Aged
 - Get-together
 - Community Children's Picnic
 - Church Socials
9. Evangelism
 - Day-camp/Vacation Bible School
 - Youth for Christ Rallies
 - Bible Studies
 - Revelation Seminars
10. World Missions
 - ADRA-related Projects/Honors
 - Special/Global Mission Projects
 - Church Heritage Projects
 - Student Missions