

UNWRAPPING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. All who believe & follow Jesus Christ receive spiritual gifts. (1 Cor. 2:14)

2. Your spiritual gift is (1 Cor. 12:7)

TO: You

FOR: Others (For building up the body of Christ)

FROM: God

3. **Spiritual gifts are NOT:**

- a. Natural talents (cooking, singing, athleticism, etc.)
- b. Spiritual fruit (See Galatians 5:22-23—love, joy, peace, patience...)
- c. Church positions (pastor, Sunday school teacher, greeter, leader)
- d. Christian disciplines (fasting, prayer, study, serving, tithing, etc.)

4. **Spiritual gifts ARE:**

- a. Gifts from God (Rom. 12:6)
- b. Selected by God (1 Cor. 12:11)
- c. The Holy Spirit working through you (1 Cor. 12:7)

5. **In the Body of Christ, all parts (gifts):**

- a. Are equally important
- b. Must work together
- c. Are mutually interdependent

SPIRITUAL GIFTS (Listed in the Bible)

ADMINISTRATION: The gift of administration allows a person to organize people and resources for greater efficiency, effectiveness, and success.

APOSTLESHIP: The gift of apostleship compels people to reach out to new and unfamiliar groups and individuals to invite them into relationship with God and community.

DISCERNMENT: Discernment is a gift of being able to know what is of God and what is not, what direction God is leading, or being able to hear how the Spirit is leading.

EVANGELISM: The gift of evangelism is the gift of faith-sharing and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ to those we meet.

EXHORTATION: The gift of exhortation is manifest in people who offer encouragement, wise counsel, unflinching support, and empowerment.

FAITH: The gift of faith is more than saving faith in Christ. Those who have the gift of faith have a trust and confidence that allows them to trust God boldly and manifest that faith in mighty ways.

GIVING: The gift of giving is the deep commitment to provide whatever resources are needed to support God's will and plan.

HEALING: The gift of healing compels people to be compassionate toward the sick and pray over them regularly. They have great faith and trust that God can and will heal some and are not deterred when He chooses not to.

INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES: The Holy Spirit empowers some to understand and interpret messages spoken in an unknown tongue to God for building up the church.

KNOWLEDGE: The gift of knowledge is an understanding of the things in this world that is founded in the Gospel and rooted in Scriptures. This gift is closely related to the gift of wisdom.

LEADERSHIP: The gift of leadership is a visionary who leads people into deeper relationship with Christ and each other. They accomplish many tasks and objectives as they lead, and always relationally.

MERCY: The gift of mercy has great empathy for others in their trials and sufferings, and they come alongside people over extended periods to see them through the healing process.

MIRACLES: Those gifted with miracles never doubt the power and presence of God in creation, and are able to help others see and believe in God's power (not themselves).

PASTOR/SHEPHERD: The pastor/shepherd humbly teaches, guides, serves, protects, and leads God's people in living out God's mission, to make disciples of Jesus Christ.

PROPHECY: The gift of prophecy is the ability to speak God's word to others, to be open for God to speak God's word through us into our lives.

SERVING/MINISTERING: Those with this gift are committed to the spread of the Gospel by serving (often in the background) to help build make disciples of Jesus Christ and build up the body of Christ.

TEACHING: Teacher can effectively communicate what the Bible says, what it means, and how we as followers of Jesus Christ are to apply it to our lives here and now.

TONGUES: Not every believer receives this gift, nor is it a requirement for salvation. Tongues may be human languages or languages only God understands. Tongues should not be spoken in church unless someone with the gift of interpretation can interpret for the congregation.

WISDOM: The Holy Spirit gives some the gift of wisdom to not only impart God's truth and understanding to believers, but to invoke a response of holiness and worship lived out in people's lives.

1) Definitions derived from spiritualgiftstest.com/spiritual-gifts and umc.org/what-we-believe/exploring-your-spiritual-gifts.

2) For more information and biblical references for each of these gifts, go to spiritualgiftstest.com/spiritual-gifts

UNWRAPPING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A spiritual gifts inventory *suggests* what your spiritual gifts may be. To find out for sure, do the following: (1) Pray! (Ask God to reveal your spiritual gifts); (2) Take a spiritual gifts inventory at www.spiritualgiftstest.com (or download a copy from our website); (3) Learn about your gifts (go to spiritualgiftstest.com to learn more); (3) Experiment (by doing things that would require your gifts, and then evaluate your feelings and effectiveness); (4) Ask others (Ask several Christian friends to fill out the "Spiritual Gifts Observation Assessment" for you." You may download a copy from our website.)