

# Spiritual Gifts

## What IS a Spiritual Gift :

"Spiritual gifts .. " a God-given special ability, given to every believer at conversion by the Holy Spirit to share His love and strengthen the body of Christ." Erik Rees. author of *SHAPE: Finding & Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose for Life*, Pg. 34.

## What a Spiritual Gift is NOT:

Your spiritual gifts are NOT talents

Your spiritual gifts are NOT something you earn

Your spiritual gifts are NOT something you are born with

## Unwrapping Spiritual Gifts

EVERYONE HAS AT LEAST ONE	1 Peter 4:10-11 1 Cor 12-14
HOLY SPIRIT CHOOSES WHICH ONES TO GIVE TO THEM	1 Cor 12
WE NEED TO DEVELOP THEM	2 Tim 1:6; 1 Tim 4:14

This information is adapted with permission from Bible Fellowship Church  
<http://bfrc.com/resources/spiritual-gifts-test/>

## Description of Each Gift

**Administration:** The gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. (Read 1 Cor. 12:28; Acts 14:23; Acts 6:1-7)

- Are effective organizers of people and projects toward reaching ministry goals.
- Are known for having specific plans to achieve clearly defined goals.
- Naturally delegate tasks, making it possible to accomplish more for God's kingdom.

**Discernment:** The gift to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human, or satanic. The purpose of this gift is to prevent confusion and false teaching from infiltrating the church. (Read John 16:6-15; Rom. 9:1; 1 Cor. 2:9-16)

- Find it easy to "read" others, and are most often right.
- Recognize the spiritual source of a message—whether it is from God, Satan, or man.
- Recognize inconsistencies in others.

**Encouragement (Exhortation):** The gift that moves the believer to minister words of encouragement, consolation, and comfort and motivation from God's word to help others complete their tasks and be all that God wants them to be. (Read John 14:1; 2 Tim.1:16-18; 3 John 5-8)

- Are driven to inspire others and impact their lives positively for Christ.
- Rejoice with those whose reliance on Christ has helped them overcome difficult life situations.
- Seek out opportunities to help others reach their full potential in Christ.

**Evangelism:** The gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community. (Read Matt. 28:16-20; Eph. 4:11-16; Acts 2:36-40)

- Look for ways to build relational bridges with nonbelievers.
- Sense when a person is open to Christ's message.
- Have likely seen many people come to faith in Jesus.

## Description of Each Gift cont'd.

**Faith:** The gift that gives the believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead. (Read Gen. 12:1-4a; Mark 5:25-34; 1 Thes.1:8-10)

- Welcome risk for God.
- Are energized by variables.
- Are challenged by ideas most see as impossible.

**Giving:** The gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessing by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). (Read 2 Cor. 9:6-15; Luke 21:1-4; Rom. 12:8;)

- Plan and purposely give over and above the 10 percent tithe, in order to see God's kingdom advanced.
- Generally prefer that their donations remain anonymous or low-profile.
- See their resources as tools for God's use.

**Helps:** The God-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by offering other assistance in reaching goals that glorify God and strengthen the body of Christ. (Read Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Rom. 16:1-2)

- Enjoy and seek out ways to serve behind the scenes
- Rejoice in the success of others
- Are often detail-oriented
- Look for ways to be assistance to others

**Hospitality:** The gift that enables a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging. (Read Rom.12:13; Rom. 16:23a; Luke 10:38)

- Are known for making those around them feel valued and cared for.
- Look for those individuals who may go unnoticed in a crowd.
- Desire that people feel loved and welcomed.

## Description of Each Gift cont'd.

**Knowledge:** The gift that enables a believer to discover, accumulate, analyze, and clarify information which is pertinent to the growth and well being of the body. (Read Rom. 12:2; 1 Cor.12:8; 1 Cor.14:6)

- ♦ Devote much of their time to reading Scripture.
- ♦ Love to share biblical insight.
- ♦ Enjoy helping others increase their understanding of God's Word.

**Leadership:** The gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction, and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task. (Read Rom. 12:8; John 21:15-17; 2 Tim. 4:1-5)

- ♦ Exhibit a tendency toward huge visions for God and the ability to inspire others to work toward accomplishing those visions for his glory, and to bless others.
- ♦ Are naturally drawn into leadership roles.
- ♦ Find it easy to motivate people—both individually and in teams—to work together in achieving goals for God's kingdom.

**Mercy:** The gift to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals who suffer distressing physical, mental, or emotional problems and to translate that compassion into cheerfully-done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the sufferings. (Read Luke 7:12-15; Luke 10:30-37; Matt. 25:34-36)

- ♦ Are drawn toward opportunities to practically meet the needs of others.
- ♦ Grieve with those who grieve.
- ♦ Are most fulfilled when visiting people in need—in hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, orphanages, or wherever God directs them.

**Preaching:** The supernatural ability to effectively proclaim and communicate the Word of God providing insight, warning, correction and encouragement. (Read 1 Tim. 4:12-16; 1 Cor. 12:28; Matt. 5:1-12)

- ♦ Are known for publicly communicating God's Word, using a variety of means.
- ♦ Love to share your strong biblical convictions with others.
- ♦ Find it easy to confront others' motives when they are not up to God's standards.
- ♦ Be able to translate words and messages of God in a way that motivates, edifies, and comforts believers.

## Description of Each Gift cont'd.

**Service:** The gift to invest the talents one has in the life and ministry of other members of the body, thus enabling those others to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts. To work behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. (Read Luke 23:50-54; Rom. 16:1-16; Phil. 2:19-23)

- ♦ Enjoy and seek out ways to serve behind the scenes.
- ♦ Ability to meet the needs of others in practical ways.
- ♦ Have a servant's heart and a passion to help people in any way.

**Shepherding (Pastoring):** The gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability, and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers. To assume long-term responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers. (Read 1 Tim. 4:12-16; Eph. 4:11-14; 1 Pet. 5:1-3)

- ♦ Are driven to help others reach their full potential for Christ.
- ♦ Enjoy serving others and look for opportunities to do this.
- ♦ Are good at developing personal, trust-based relationships with a small number of people.

**Teaching:** 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. (Read 1 Cor. 12:28; Matt. 5:1-12; Acts 18:24-48)

- ♦ Are given to hours in the study of Scripture in order to best apply its principles and truth.
- ♦ Seek out opportunities to speak biblical insight into daily situations.
- ♦ Are good at helping others learn to study the Bible.

**Wisdom:** The gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts, and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community. (Read 1 Cor. 2:6-13; Jam. 3:13-18; 2 Chron. 1:7-11)

- ♦ Enjoy speaking biblical insights into life situations.
- ♦ Take pleasure in counseling others.
- ♦ Are known for making correct decisions and judgments.
- ♦ Recognize God as the primary source of wisdom and direction.



# Spiritual Gifts Overview



\*For copies of the sermon series, **The Gift Looks Good on You** by Rev. Kay, please call 301-277-4742 or email fbc4009@comcast.net.

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