

EXPLORING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Some of the following content and the Spiritual Gifts assessment were created by Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, California, and can be found in:
Developing Your SHAPE To Serve Others, Zondervan, 2002

“As each one has received a gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

1 Peter 4:10

The Holy Spirit endows each person who has put their faith in Jesus Christ with spiritual gifts. No one else has your combination of abilities, so no one is capable of accomplishing your God-given design in life.

The Apostle Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 that the church is the Body of Christ and that the Body is made up of many parts (that’s you and me). Every part is significant and each has a place in God’s plan.

Therefore, it is important for you, as a Christian, to do all you can to identify your spiritual gifts and natural abilities. By identifying your gifts you will better understand how you fit in the Body of Christ; how you can serve God in His church.

Below is a spiritual gifts assessment. You will find a list of spiritual gifts, each with a practical definition. This list is not exhaustive but it is a fairly thorough representation of spiritual gifts noted in Scripture. Most gifts are found in five Biblical passages, Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-31; Ephesians 4:11-12; and 1 Peter 4:9-11.

To take the assessment read through each gift and then...

1. Place a check mark next to the gifts you have or may have.
2. Make note of the headings under which your gifts appear.
3. Refer to the the list of our Ministries which we have grouped under these headings. One of these Ministries could be a great place to get started serving.
4. Consult the brochure *Volunteer Opportunities* or our web site at www.christchurchohio.org for a more thorough list of Ministries and Volunteer Opportunities.

GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD’S WORD

- PREACHING (AND LARGE GROUP TEACHING)** **1 CORINTHIANS 14:3**
The ability to publicly or personally communicate God’s word regarding a specific situation with challenge, comfort, and conviction so as to point people toward Jesus Christ and His will.
- EVANGELISM** **ACTS 8:26-40**
The ability to communicate the good news about Jesus Christ easily and naturally to unbelievers so that they often respond with faith.
- MISSIONS** **1 CORINTHIANS 9:19-23; ACTS 13:2-3**
The ability and flexibility to bring Jesus to a culture or people other than your own.

GIFTS THAT EDUCATE GOD’S PEOPLE

- TEACHING** **EPHESIANS 4:12-13**
The ability to teach the Bible or train others in a way that causes them to learn and implement life change.

- ENCOURAGEMENT (EXHORTATION)** **ACTS 14:22**
The ability to care for others in a way that builds their courage and motivates them to follow Jesus; the ability to bring out the best in others.
- WISDOM** **1 CORINTHIANS 2:1, 6-16**
The ability to understand God's perspective on life situations and share these insights in a simple, understandable way.
- DISCERNMENT** **1 CORINTHIANS 2:14**
The ability to know whether one is following the Spirit of God or the spirit of error in a given situation.

GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE

- SERVICE** **ACTS 6:1-7**
The ability to publicly give practical assistance in a way that makes people feel cared for and loved; the ability to see opportunities to serve without being asked.
- MERCY** **ROMANS 12:8**
The ability to show practical compassion toward suffering persons; the ability to sense people's thoughts and emotions in order to care for them.
- HOSPITALITY** **1 PETER 4:9-10**
The ability to make strangers feel welcomed and comfortable.
- PASTORING** **1 PETER 4:9-10**
The ability to walk with others through life in a caring way that helps them grow in faith; the ability to care for people's spiritual needs and equip them for service. (The gift can be exercised in a small group, not just in full-time ministry).
- GIVING** **2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-7**
The ability to give of your resources without feeling put out.
- MIRACLES** **MARK 11:23-24**
The ability to pray in faith for God's supernatural intervention into an impossible situation and see God's answer; the ability to sense when God is prompting you to pray this kind of prayer.

GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE (WORSHIP OR PRAYER-RELATED GIFTS)

- INTERCESSION** **COLOSSIANS 1:9-12**
The ability to pray persistently for others.
- HEALING** **JAMES 5:14-16**
The ability to bring physical or emotional healing into another's life through prayer.
- PRAYING WITH MY SPIRIT** **1 CORINTHIANS 14:13-15**
The ability to pray in a language understood only by God or one who interprets.
- MUSIC AND ARTS** **PSALM 150**
The ability to create art that elevates people into God's presence.

GIFTS THAT SUPPORT ALL MINISTRIES

- LEADERSHIP** **HEBREWS 13:7-17**
The ability to bring out the best in others in their service to God; the ability to set vision, motivate, equip, train, or set an example of service in order to draw a group to reach a goal.
- ADMINISTRATION** **1 CORINTHIANS 14:40**
The ability to manage people well and organize programs and ministries effectively.

FAITH

ROMANS 4:18-21

The ability to trust God and to act on God's promises, regardless of what the circumstance indicate; the willingness to risk failure in pursuit of a God-given vision, expecting God to handle the obstacles.

APPLYING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

We have grouped our Ministries* under the headings from the Spiritual Gifts assessment. If you have more than one gift under a particular heading, it's likely that a Ministry under that heading will be a good place to begin serving.

GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD'S WORD

- Adult Small Groups / Classes
- Children's Ministry
- Teens
- DOXA

GIFTS THAT EDUCATE GOD'S PEOPLE

- Adult Small Groups / Classes
- Care Ministries—Living Water
- Children's Ministry
- Teens
- DOXA

GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE

- Campus Operations
- Administration Office Support
- Care Ministries—Living Water
- Women's Ministry
- Children's Ministry
- Teens
- DOXA

GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE

- Care Ministries—Living Water
- The Performing Arts

GIFTS THAT SUPPORT ALL MINISTRIES

- Administration Office Support
- Deacon-Ministry Leadership

*See **Life With Others** at www.christchurchohio.org for a thorough list of our Ministries and *Volunteer Opportunities*.