

God's Gifts Our Lives



Spiritual Gifts Descriptions

SPIRITUAL GIFT DESCRIPTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

The ability to understand what makes an organization function and the special ability to plan and execute procedures that accomplish the goals of ministry.

People with this gift:

1. Develop strategies or plans to reach identified goals.
2. Assist ministries to become more effective and efficient;
3. Create order out of organization chaos;
4. Manage or coordinate a variety of responsibilities to accomplish a task;
5. Detail oriented.

HELP / SERVICE / ASSISTANCE

The ability to accomplish practical and necessary tasks which support and build up the body. The tasks are done for the sake of others, or for the pure glory of God, or for the sake of the ministry of the church as a whole.

People with this gift:

1. Serve behind the scenes wherever needed;
2. See the tangible and practical things to be done and enjoy doing them;
3. Sense God's purpose and pleasure in meeting every day responsibilities;
4. Attach spiritual value to practical service;
5. Will do whatever needs to be done to help others be successful in their task and to help the ministry be done.

CRAFTSMANSHIP

The ability to fix, design, or construct items to be used in ministry to the church and for others.

People with this gift:

1. Work with wood, cloth, paints, metals, glass, and other raw materials;
2. Make things which increase the effectiveness of others' ministries;
3. Enjoy serving with their hands to meet tangible needs;
4. Design and build tangible items and resources for ministry use;
5. Work with different kinds of tools and are skilled with their hands.

CREATIVE COMMUNICATION

The ability to communicate God's truth through a variety of art forms such as music, drama, art, and writing.

People with this gift:

1. Use the arts to communicate God's truth;
2. Develop and use artistic skills such as drama, writing, art, and music;
3. Use variety and creativity to captivate people and cause them to consider Christ's message;
4. Challenge people's perspective of God through the various forms of the arts;
5. Demonstrate fresh ways to express the Lord's ministry and message.

DISCERNMENT

The ability to distinguish between truth and error, right and wrong.

People with this gift:

1. Are able to look beyond certain behaviors and circumstances and determine if they are good/evil, right/wrong.
2. Are able to look through the issues and see the truth;
3. Do not judge too quickly;
4. Cannot always explain why they feel like they do; often called illogical;
5. Are crucial to the health of the community of faith to keep it on the right track. They know what is of God and what is not.

EXHORTATION /ENCOURAGEMENT

The ability to speak and act in such a way as to strengthen, comfort and urge to action those who are discouraged and who are going through hard times.

People with this gift:

1. Come to the side of those who are discouraged to strengthen and reassure them;
2. Have special powers to build up folks and give them confidence and hope;
3. Motivate others to grow;
4. Emphasize God's promises and have confidence in God's will;
5. Challenge and comfort others to trust and hope in the promises of God;
6. Have a peaceful countenance, a presence, a bearing that inspires hope in others.

EVANGELISM

The ability to give such a witness to the love of God as expressed in Jesus Christ that it moves others to accept that love and become disciples of Christ.

People with this gift:

1. Enjoy sharing their faith;
2. Communicate the message of Christ with clarity and conviction;
3. Seek out opportunities to talk to unbelievers;
4. Encourage unbelievers to faith;
5. Adapt the presentation of the Gospel to connect with the need of the hearer;
6. Seek opportunities to build relationships with unbelievers.

FAITH

The ability to trust, with extraordinary confidence, that through the activity of the Holy Spirit, God's will, in every situation will be achieved.

People with this gift:

1. Have extraordinary confidence in God;
2. Believe without questioning;
3. Never see an impasse, only detours to go around in pursuit of accomplishing God's work;
4. Advance the cause of Christ because they go forward when others will not;
5. Ask God for what is needed and trust God to provide;
6. Their faith inspires others to faith.

GIVING

The ability to give freely, cheerfully, sacrificially of one's money or possessions for the sake of Jesus Christ and His Church.

People with this gift:

1. Do not ask, "How much money do I need to give to God?" but "How much money do I need to live on?"
2. Manage their finances and limit their lifestyle in order to give as much of their resources as possible to the work of God;
3. Support the work of ministry, with sacrificial gifts to advance the Kingdom;
4. Provide resources generously, cheerfully, trusting God for provision;
5. May have a special ability to make money so that they may use it to further God's work;
6. Giving is often, quiet, and confidential

HEALING

The ability to be God's means for restoring people to wholeness of body, soul, and spirit.

People with this gift:

1. Demonstrate the power of God;
2. Are sensitive to those who suffer;
3. Usually have the gift of faith, also because the person believes that the Spirit can heal physical, emotional, and spiritual infirmities;
4. Are able to believe that God can heal but also that God may choose not to heal because of a larger plan;
5. Pray, touch, or speak words that miraculously bring healing to one's body and soul.

HOSPITALITY

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

People with this gift:

1. Delight in meeting new people;
2. Are more comfortable in short-term relationships;
3. Set people at ease in unfamiliar surroundings;
4. Are not as concerned with neatness of home and the quality of the food as they are with their invited guests and in establishing relationships with them.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

The ability to know when, for whom, and what to pray that brings peace and healing to light.

People with this gift:

1. Feel compelled to earnestly pray on behalf of someone or some cause;
2. Have a constant awareness of the spiritual issues and challenges being dealt with through prayer.
3. Are convinced God moves in response to prayer;
4. Pray in response to the leading of the Spirit whether they understand it or not.

KNOWLEDGE

The ability to discover, analyze, clarify, and articulate information and concepts essential to the work of the body of Christ.

People with this gift:

1. Have a love for scripture and learning;
2. Organize information for teaching and practical use;
3. Have unusual and keen insight or understanding about the Church and the scriptures;

LEADERSHIP

The ability to cast a vision, motivate, and direct people to harmoniously accomplish the purposes revealed by God.

People with this gift:

1. Provide direction for God's people and ministry;
2. Motivate others to perform to the best of their ability;
3. Present the big picture for others to see;
4. Able to see what is essential and what is not;
5. Take responsibility and set goals.

MERCY / COMPASSION

The ability to cheerfully and practically help those who are hurting and in need.

People with this gift:

1. Have a lifestyle of sincere kindness and compassion.
2. Seek to alleviate the sources of pain and discomfort.
3. Have the ability to stay alongside someone who is ill.
4. Express love, grace, dignity to those facing hardships.
5. Not judgmental.
6. Serve in difficult circumstances.

MISSIONARY

The ability that God gives some members of the body of Christ to minister whatever other spiritual gifts they have in a second culture.

People with this gift:

1. Have an inner desire and dream of aiding others in another land or culture;
2. Have the ability to learn a second language easily;
3. Have a deep desire to send more than money or supplies, they have a desire to go in person;
4. Are able to communicate God's love in a variety of ways.

PASTOR / SHEPHERD or SHEPHERD / PASTOR

The ability to guide, care for, and nurture individuals or groups toward ongoing spiritual maturity and becoming like Christ.

People with this gift:

1. Love being with and ministering to people;
2. Are able to provide care and spiritual nourishment over long periods of time;
3. Are people-centered, not task-centered;
4. Offer great spiritual counseling, guidance, and helping people to grow in their faith;
5. Model with their life what it means to be a disciple;
6. Take responsibility to nurture the whole person in their walk with God.

TEACHING

The ability to share Christian information, Christian concepts, from the word of God with members of the body in ways that will help them learn about the Christian faith and grow into Christ's likeness.

People with this gift:

1. Have a love for the word of God;
2. Give attention to detail and accuracy;
3. Apply Biblical insight to real life situations;
4. Enjoy learning and reading;
5. Clearly communicate Biblical truths that inspires greater obedience;
6. Gives time to study and reflection.

WISDOM

The ability to apply spiritual truths effectively to meet a need in a specific situation.

People with this gift:

1. Know how to apply spiritual knowledge to practical needs;
2. Know what to do and how to do it.
3. Provide Godly solutions in the midst of conflict and confusion;
4. Have the ability to see unseen consequences in determining the next steps to take.