

An Introduction to Spiritual Gifts

“Now there are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but it is the same Holy Spirit who is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service in the church, but it is the same Lord we are serving. There are different ways God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work through all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-7: New Living Translation.

Spiritual gifts exist within every Christian. They are the ways by which Christ works within the life of believers to edify and strengthen the Church. Through these gifts we bring glory and honor to God and bless believers and non-believers alike.

The spiritual gifts are gifts to be shared. They are not gifts to be hidden or tucked away in a closet, or enclosed within a box. They are given by the Spirit to be used by the Spirit. The origin of these special gifts never begins with humanity but always with the divine. God is the giver of these gifts.

Four main passages in Scripture provide the foundation for spiritual gifts. They include: Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12 and 14, Ephesians 4:7-12, and 1 Peter 4:9-11. Yet many of the gifts listed in this inventory come from other places in Scripture not mentioned above.

This inventory is a list of twenty-five spiritual gifts compiled from a number of resources, books, and online inventories. They are not intended to limit the Spirit but rather to enhance and acknowledge the special gifts of grace given by God to Christians. Some spiritual gift inventories have less than twenty gifts mentioned while others exceed thirty. Those listed in this inventory, in my opinion, are those most commonly used and understood.

The purpose of this inventory is for one to discover his or her spiritual gifts and then to prayerfully consider ways to utilize these gifts for the advancement of the Kingdom of God and the making of disciples within the local church. These gifts are meant to be shared about, not stored away. They are meant to honor God, rejuvenate the Church, and reach a lost generation for Christ.

Rusty Freeman

Survey of Spiritual Gifts

Answer honestly on who you are, NOT who you would like to be OR who think you should be. You cannot fail. Do not try to outsmart this survey, it is just a starting point.

Much = 5, Sometimes = 3, Little = 1, Never = 0.

- ___1. I would enjoy directing a vacation Bible school, recreation program or special event in my church.
- ___2. I feel lead to develop and start new churches.
- ___3. I like to make things with my hands which can be used in the church.
- ___4. I have the gift to immediately distinguish good from evil.
- ___5. There is nothing I like to do more than to encourage someone else in their faith.
- ___6. I can tell anyone, anywhere about Jesus and what he did for my life.
- ___7. I often feel I know God's will even when others are not sure.
- ___8. I see myself as a person who is very generous when it comes to giving money to the church.
- ___9. People have told me I have the gift of healing.
- ___10. I am the one who often cleans up after church or youth group is over.
- ___11. Inviting people to my home is one of my favorite things to do.
- ___12. I have interpreted in church when someone has spoken in tongues.
- ___13. I have often expressed truths about God's word that has given insight to others.
- ___14. I believe I know where I am going and other people seem to follow.
- ___15. I often give hope to those who are in need.
- ___16. Many incredible acts of God have happened to others through me.
- ___17. I would like to be a missionary.
- ___18. I am musically inclined and love to sing and play an instrument.
- ___19. I find great satisfaction in caring for the spiritual needs of friends and people I know.
- ___20. I can pray for long periods of time without getting tired, distracted or bored.
- ___21. I have given others important messages that I felt came from God at the perfect time.
- ___22. I could be described as an "others-centered" person.
- ___23. I like to explain biblical truths to people.
- ___24. I believe I have a prayer language which is in a tongue unknown to me.
- ___25. People have told me that I am a wise person.
- ___26. I can give others responsibilities for a task or project and help them accomplish it.
- ___27. I believe I have been called to live a life in which I set an example for other Christians to follow.
- ___28. God has gifted me with creativity and the ability to make things with my hands.
- ___29. If something is from Satan and not God, I know it right away.
- ___30. I believe I have the ability to comfort those who are "off-track" and help them get back with God.

- ___ 31. When I consider people who don't know Jesus, I have extreme sadness and a heavy heart.
- ___ 32. I find it easy to trust God even when things seem to go bad for me or others.
- ___ 33. I have no problem giving my money or other resources to the church or those in need.
- ___ 34. When I have prayed for a sick person and they have made a miraculous recovery.
- ___ 35. I don't think twice about doing a job that might not bring me praise.
- ___ 36. I love to put on parties, cook, decorate, and make people feel good.
- ___ 37. There was a time someone spoken in an unknown language and I understood them.
- ___ 38. I greatly want to understand biblical truths.
- ___ 39. I like to lead, inspire, and motivate others to become involved in God's work.
- ___ 40. I believe I have the gift of mercy.
- ___ 41. God has used me to perform miraculous signs and wonders.
- ___ 42. I feel comfortable when I am around people of a different race, culture or language.
- ___ 43. I would really love to lead people in worship through my music.
- ___ 44. I feel God is calling me to be a pastor in a local church.
- ___ 45. When I pray, I often see immediate and amazing answers to my prayers.
- ___ 46. I believe I have the ability to reveal God's truth about the future.
- ___ 47. I enjoy meeting the needs of others.
- ___ 48. I think I have what it takes to reach a Bible study or lead a small group.
- ___ 49. I have spoken in tongues.
- ___ 50. I believe God has given me the ability to make wise decisions.
- ___ 51. I am able to set goals and plan the most effective way to reach them.
- ___ 52. I feel called to serve in a leadership role which allows me to encourage many believers.
- ___ 53. When something is broken, I can fix it.
- ___ 54. I feel I have the gift to "test the spirits" and know what is good.
- ___ 55. I have the desire to learn more about counseling so I can help others.
- ___ 56. I have led others to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- ___ 57. I trust in God for supernatural miracles or radical answers to prayer.
- ___ 58. I am confident that God will take care of me when I give cheerfully and with sacrifice.
- ___ 59. I have the ability to heal.
- ___ 60. I don't have to lead, I love to follow and help make things happen from behind the scenes.
- ___ 61. Nothing brings me more joy than to prepare a dinner or a meals for people in need.
- ___ 62. I believe I have the gift of interpretation of tongues.
- ___ 63. I have the ability to learn new insights on my own.
- ___ 64. People seem to look to me for leadership and to make decisions.
- ___ 65. I like to visit nursing homes, hospitals, and other places where people need comfort.
- ___ 66. Others have said that I was used by God to bring about a supernatural change in their lives.

- ___ 67. I adapt easily to a different change of settings and environments.
- ___ 68. I believe God has given me a real gift of music to share with the body of Christ.
- ___ 69. When sitting in church, I am often thinking what I might preach on if I were the pastor.
- ___ 70. One of my favorite things to do is spend time in prayer.
- ___ 71. I desire to speak messages from God that challenge people to change.
- ___ 72. You'll frequently find me volunteering my time to help with the needs of the church.
- ___ 73. I would like to teach a Bible study in the church or in my school.
- ___ 74. When I speak in tongues, I feel God's Spirit inside of me.
- ___ 75. I believe God has given me the gift of wisdom.
- ___ 76. I enjoy learning about management skills and how organizations function.
- ___ 77. I feel that I am set a part for a higher calling and desire to strengthen God's people.
- ___ 78. Nothing would bring me more joy than to build a Cross to go in the church sanctuary.
- ___ 79. I believe I can tell when someone is really a Christian and when someone is faking it.
- ___ 80. I have helped others in their struggles and am known for my encouraging words and attitude.
- ___ 81. I always think of new ways to tell my non-Christian friends about Jesus.
- ___ 82. My belief in God is very strong and I almost never have doubts about my faith.
- ___ 83. It makes me happy to give my money and personal items away.
- ___ 84. I have healed someone physically, spiritually, or emotionally.
- ___ 85. I will sacrifice my own time and energy in order to assist someone else.
- ___ 86. I love to entertain people in my home and wait on them while they are there.
- ___ 87. God has shown me what someone is saying when he or she is speaking in tongues.
- ___ 88. I do extremely well in school and always make very high grades.
- ___ 89. When I am in a group I am usually the leader or take the lead if no one else does.
- ___ 90. I would like to work in a ministry to orphans, the homeless, or the physically handicapped.
- ___ 91. I believe I have the gift of miracles.
- ___ 92. I believe I could learn a new language and culture in order to minister in another country.
- ___ 93. I write songs, lyrics, that I know are from God and that he wants me to share with others.
- ___ 94. I would really like to nurture and shape people in their ongoing relationship to Jesus Christ.
- ___ 95. People often tell me that whenever I pray, God always seems to answers my prayers.
- ___ 96. I believe I have the gift of prophecy.
- ___ 97. I believe I have the gift of serving and would rather serve than do anything else.
- ___ 98. Because of my teaching, others have gained a better understanding into who God is.
- ___ 99. An unknown language comes to me when I am at a loss for words during my prayer times.
- ___ 100. I usually see clear solutions to complicated problems.

Spiritual Gifts Answer Sheet

In the blanks below, put the number of the answer you feel most fits your response. Then add up the four numbers and put the sum in the "Total" column. **Much = 5, Sometimes = 3, Little = 1, Never = 0.**

<i>Rows</i>	<i>Answers</i>				<i>Total</i>
A	1 ___	26 ___	51 ___	76 ___	_____
B	2 ___	27 ___	52 ___	77 ___	_____
C	3 ___	28 ___	53 ___	78 ___	_____
D	4 ___	29 ___	54 ___	79 ___	_____
E	5 ___	30 ___	55 ___	80 ___	_____
F	6 ___	31 ___	56 ___	81 ___	_____
G	7 ___	32 ___	57 ___	82 ___	_____
H	8 ___	33 ___	58 ___	83 ___	_____
I	9 ___	34 ___	59 ___	84 ___	_____
J	10 ___	35 ___	60 ___	85 ___	_____
K	11 ___	36 ___	61 ___	86 ___	_____
L	12 ___	37 ___	62 ___	87 ___	_____
M	13 ___	38 ___	63 ___	88 ___	_____
N	14 ___	39 ___	64 ___	89 ___	_____
O	15 ___	40 ___	65 ___	90 ___	_____
P	16 ___	41 ___	66 ___	91 ___	_____
Q	17 ___	42 ___	67 ___	92 ___	_____
R	18 ___	43 ___	68 ___	93 ___	_____
S	19 ___	44 ___	69 ___	94 ___	_____
T	20 ___	45 ___	70 ___	95 ___	_____
U	21 ___	46 ___	71 ___	96 ___	_____
V	22 ___	47 ___	72 ___	97 ___	_____
W	23 ___	48 ___	73 ___	98 ___	_____
X	24 ___	49 ___	74 ___	99 ___	_____
Y	25 ___	50 ___	75 ___	100 ___	_____

Summary of Spiritual Gifts:

Totals

A	Administration	_____
B	Apostle	_____
C	Craftsmanship	_____
D	Discernment	_____
E	Encouragement	_____
F	Evangelism	_____
G	Faith	_____
H	Giving	_____
I	Healing	_____
J	Helping	_____
K	Hospitality	_____
L	Interpretation of Tongues	_____
M	Knowledge	_____
N	Leadership	_____
O	Mercy	_____
P	Miracles	_____
Q	Missions	_____
R	Music	_____
S	Pastoring	_____
T	Prayer	_____
U	Prophecy	_____
V	Serving	_____
W	Teaching	_____
X	Tongues	_____
Y	Wisdom	_____

Primary Gifts

(The two gifts with the first and second highest totals)

Secondary Gifts

(The two gifts with the third and fourth highest totals)

Top 25 - List of Spiritual Gifts

1. Administration – 1 Cor 12.28, Acts 6.2-4, Ex 18.13-27
The gift to clearly understand the present and future goals of the Church and to plan workable and manageable ways to reach these goals.
2. Apostle – 1 Cor 12.28-29, Eph 1.1, 4.11, Acts 14.21-23
The gift to inspire and develop the church and people of God through the proclamation and teaching of God's word and truth.
3. Craftsmanship – Exodus 28.3-4, 31.1-5, Acts 18.3, 2 Kings 12.12
The gift to use hands, minds and skill to build up the Kingdom through artistic and creative means for the glory and honor of God.
4. Discernment – 1 John 4.1, 1 Kings 3.9, Ro 12.2, 1 Cor 2.14, Heb 5.14, Acts 5.3-6
The gift to know and to test whether something is spiritually good or evil, from God or from Satan.
5. Encouragement – Romans 12.8, Acts 4.36, 11.23-24, 1 Thess 4.18
The gift to offer words and actions of encouragement to others in need of comfort, counsel and care.
6. Evangelism – Eph 4.11-12, 2 Timothy 4.5, Acts 21.8
The gift to share the Gospel with unbelievers with the hope that the unbeliever will become a disciple of Jesus Christ. To bring good tidings of salvation.
7. Faith – 1 Cor 12.9, Heb 11.1,6, Philippians 3.9, Luke 17.5, Romans 10.17
The gift to believe with extraordinary confidence in God's promises, power and presence in order to honor God, inspire others, and build up the Church.
8. Giving – Romans 12.6,8, Mark 12.43-44, 2 Cor 8.2-3, 9.7
The gift to offer material blessings with exceptional willingness, cheerfulness and generosity to the mission of the Church and people in need.
9. Healing – 1 Cor 12.9,30, Matthew 10.1, Luke 4.40, Acts 3.6-9
The gift by which the Holy Spirit enables certain individuals to restore health to those who are sick.
10. Helping – 1 Cor 12.28, Acts 6.2-4, Ps 40.17, Heb 13.6, 1 Tim 5.10
The gift to willingly assist others by enabling them to do their Kingdom tasks more effectively and to help bear the burdens of others.
11. Hospitality – 1 Peter 4.9-10, 1 Tim 3.2, 5.10, Rom 12.13, Titus 1.8
The gift to offer food, lodging or fellowship to people in a cheerful manner either in their homes, work, school or church.
12. Interpretation of tongues – 1 Cor 12.10-11, 30, 14.5,
The gift of understanding and interpreting that which is spoken in a tongue, a spirit language or a foreign language.

13. Knowledge – 1 Cor 12.8, Eph 3.18-19, John 7.16-17, 17.3
The gift to understand great truths about God’s word and to make them relevant to specific situations. Such as truth that is unknown by merely natural means.
14. Leadership – Romans 12.8, 1 Timothy 4.12, Heb 13.7,
The gift to set goals from God and then lead others to work together to carry out these goals for the glory of God.
15. Mercy – Romans 12.8, Deut 4.31, Matthew 5.7, Titus 3.5, Luke 6.36,
The gift of showing kindness and compassion in the name of Jesus to those who Suffer, and to meet the needs of those who hurt.
16. Miracles – 1 Cor 12.10, John 20.30-31, Acts 19.11, Psalm 77.14, Acts 2.22
The gift of performing supernatural acts through the power of the Holy Spirit to further the Kingdom, give glory to God, and to convert unbelievers.
17. Missions – Matthew 28.18-20, Acts 1.8, 22.21, 1 Cor 9.19-23, Mark 13.10, 16.15
The gift of being ‘sent forth’ to minister in another culture, people group or nation, while utilizing a wide range of spiritual gifts.
18. Music – 1 Cor 14.15,26, Mark 14.26, Eph 5.19, 1 Chronicles 9.33, James 5.13
The gift of bringing praise to God and leading the body of Christ in worship through various forms of music, singing, instruments and choirs.
19. Pastoring – Eph 4.11-12, 1 Peter 5.1-4, Jer 23.4, Heb 13.17, 1 Tim 3.2, Jn 10.11
The gift to guide, oversee, shepherd and spiritually build-up a specific group of believers in matters concerning Christ and the Church.
20. Prayer – 1 Thess 3.10-13, 5.17, 1 Tim 2.1-2, 5.5, Luke 18.1, Jn 16.24, Eph 6.18
The gift to pray (intercede) for extended periods of time and regularity with great positive effects and results for building up the Kingdom.
21. Prophecy – 1 Cor 12.10, 29, 14.1-3, 30-33, Eph 4.11-12, Joel 2.28, Rom 12.6
The gift to “speak forth” and interpret messages from God regarding future events, revelations or truths pertaining to a given situation or everyday life.
22. Serving – Romans 12.7, Eph 3.7, 4.12, 6.7, Galatians 6.2, Phil 2.7, Deut 10.12
The gift to serve God and the Church with great joy, blessing, and selfless-ness. One who desires to meet physical, spiritual & emotional needs of others.
23. Teaching - Eph 4.11-12, 1 Cor 12.29, Ro 12.7, Acts 11.25-26, 13.1, 15.35, John 7.16
The gift to communicate God’s word to God’s people in order that they might understand spiritual truths and insights and thus learn, grow, and mature in Jesus Christ.
24. Tongues – 1 Cor 12.10-11, 28-31, 1 Cor 14.1-5, 13-22, Acts 2.1-13, 10.44-46
The gift to speak in an unknown language, derived from the Holy Spirit, for the sole purpose of witnessing for salvation, building up of the Church, and prayer.
25. Wisdom – 1 Cor 12.8, James 3.13-18, Proverbs 3.13, Romans 11.33, 2 Tim 3.15
The gift to offer good advice, solid counsel, and special insight as it relates to God’s purpose and will and work as it pertains in living life and making disciples.

The 5 Gift Categories

1. Gifts for **SHEPHERDING**.
Administration, apostle, leadership, pastoring, teaching.
2. Gifts for **SERVING**.
Craftsmanship, giving, helping, hospitality, serving.
3. Gifts for **STRENGTHENING**.
Encouragement, healing, mercy, music, prophecy.
4. Gifts for **SALVATION**.
Evangelism, faith, miracles, missions, tongues.
5. Gifts for **SPIRITUAL INSIGHT**.
Discernment, interpretation of tongues, knowledge, prayer, wisdom.

Identification of Spiritual Gifts

1. It helps you determine God's will for your vocation. A knowledge of your gifts will provide a context for making career and ministry decisions regarding what not to attempt as well as what to enter into with confidence.
2. Mobilizes the entire church for mission. Since a small percentage of the church consists of clergy and more than ninety percent of the church is laity, the church obviously must equip and encourage every Christian to minister in his or her area of influence, home, school or work place.
3. Assists you in setting priorities for study, growth, and ministry. Since each of us has a limited amount of time to develop our potential, it seems clear that we should develop ourselves in the areas of our spiritual gifts.
4. Gives each Christian a sense of dignity and self-worth. Every Christian is an important part of the total church. There are no "second class" citizens in the Christian community because each person is a vitally important member of the body of Christ.
5. Enables you to receive the gift ministries of others. When Christians become more knowledgeable of their own spiritual gifts and those of other Christians, they can more easily function in harmony as the body of Christ, both giving and receiving ministries.

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Serving from the Heart: Finding Your Gifts and Talents for Service
by Carol Cartmill & Yvonne Gentile

Spirit Gifts: Discovering God's Direction for Your Life
by Patricia Brown

Strengths Finder 2.0
by Tom Rath