



## Spiritual Gift Identification Tool

In a conversation about spiritual gifts, it's important to acknowledge that there is a wide range of theological perspective on the subject. This identification tool has been compiled on the basis that God still uses believers, by filling them with his Holy Spirit, and then channeling His Spirit through certain abilities, strengths and leanings of the individual, to accomplish the edification of the church, and the advancement of the Kingdom of God, in love.

Secondly, we acknowledge that there is some conjecture around when a person receives spiritual gifts, some say they always have them and are awakened when at a point of conversion, others say a person is gifted upon their conversion, still others say that people are gifted a certain gift for a certain time and objective or task, while others say that gifts given initially can be taken away, or fade and be replaced with different gifts later on in a person's walk with Jesus. To this we say, 'yes!'

Thirdly, we acknowledge that some hold to categories of gifts: Spiritual and ministerial, etc. others to a single but definitive list, and others still to an initial list, with the understanding that both Scripture and human experience points to a wider range of gifts than only those named by Paul in Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, 1 Peter 4 and Ephesians 4.

What we can all agree on is that the Church works best, and believers are most fulfilled when they are operating out of their gift mix.

Following is a list of spiritual gifts, and their definitions, which we invite you to read while thinking about the following four questions:

1. How has God gifted you?
2. Which gifts resonate most with you?
3. Which gifts describe you best?
4. Which gifts would your friends say, best describes you?

At the end of this document, you will find a WORKSPACE; a set of questions we encourage you to work through carefully and prayerfully. Once you've done this an Elder or staff member would love to have a conversation with you, to help you discover where God is calling and equipping you to serve. When you're ready please make the most of this opportunity.

## Spiritual Gift List and Definitions

The gift of **Administration** is a special talent from God that helps someone understand how a group or organisation works. It also helps them plan and carry out steps to achieve the group's goals. They often have good attention to detail and organisation.

The gift of **Discernment** is a special talent from God that helps someone tell the difference between what is true and what is not. It means being able to know what is good and what is bad, what is right and what is wrong, and what is real and what is a trick.

The gift of **Encouragement** is a special talent from God that helps someone use kind and supportive words to make others feel better and stronger. It helps people who are feeling sad or unsure about their faith to feel encouraged and ready to take action.

The gift of **Faith** is a special talent from God that helps someone trust completely in God's promises. It means having strong belief and confidence that God will do what He says.

The gift of **Hospitality** is a special talent from God that makes people feel welcome and accepted, anywhere, at any time. People with this gift enjoy connecting with and caring for others and can include giving them food and offering them a place to stay.

The gift of **Giving** is a special talent from God that helps someone happily and generously share their money, things and time to help others, giving all credit to God's love and provision.

The gift of **Leadership** is a special talent from God that helps someone see a goal, inspire others, and guide them to work together to do what God wants. It also means to protect and care for a group of people, strategically leading them forward in faith for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

The gift of **Mercy** is a special talent from God that helps someone care a lot about people who are hurting in their bodies, hearts, or spirits. It means having great empathy for others and helping them in ways that make them feel better.

The gift of **Prophecy** is a special talent from God that helps someone share God's truth with others. It means telling people what God wants them to know, helping them understand, make changes, and grow in their faith.

The gift of **Apostleship** is a special talent from God that helps someone start new churches and teach others about Jesus in new places. It means going to different places to share God's love and help people grow in their faith.

The gift of **Service/ Helping** is a special talent from God that helps someone do important and helpful tasks that are often in the background and enables others to use their gifts to the fullest. This makes things easier for everyone and meets their needs.

The gift of **Teaching** is a special talent from God that helps someone understand, explain, and use God's Word so that others can easily understand it too.

The gift of **Knowledge** is a special talent from God that helps someone learn and understand the Bible deeply. It means finding important lessons that help the church grow and be healthy.

The gift of **Wisdom** is a special talent from God that helps someone use what they know about God to solve problems and help others in a specific situation. It often expresses itself through a pastoral heart and leads to transformation in the lives of others.

The gift of **Shepherding** is a special talent from God that helps someone take care of the spiritual well-being of a person or small group of Christians over a long time. It means helping them grow in their faith and guiding them to become stronger followers of Jesus.

The gift of **Evangelism** is a special talent from God that helps someone share the story of Jesus in a way that makes people who don't believe, want to believe and follow Jesus.

The gift of **Intercession** is a special talent from God that helps someone pray a lot for other people. It means their prayers often lead to good things happening.

# Workspace

1. Set some time aside to pray. Ask God to reveal to you the gifts he has entrusted you with. Write down any leading you feel or impressions you get.
2. As you read through the list, which three gifts resonate with or excite you the most?
3. Which Gift (it may be several) seems to best describe your sweet spot (what you were made to do)?

4. Which of these gifts would your friends say, best describes you? (Ask 3 friends)

5. Which gift intrigues or excites you to explore more? Why?

6. Given all of this, applying your creativity to this question, what ministry shape/role/opportunity do you need to explore?