

WEEK 3 - IDENTIFYING MY UNIQUE S.H.A.P.E. – SPIRITUAL GIFTS

IDENTIFYING MY UNIQUE S.H.A.P.E.

We've prepared and adapted several tools to help you discover and think through the five factors that make up who you are. You will complete these on your own (homework) *before* you meet with a Ministry Guide.

* "___UNWRAPPING ___ YOUR GIFT" will give you an overview of spiritual gifts and help you identify which ones you may have been given by God.

* "___MONITORING ___ YOUR HEARTBEAT" will help you clarify what you really love to do.

* "___APPLYING ___ YOUR ABILITIES" will help you appreciate the natural talents and vocational skills you have.

* "___PLUGGING IN ___ YOUR PERSONALITY" will help you see how your God given temperament can best be used in ministry.

* "___EXAMINING ___ YOUR EXPERIENCES" will help you review your history to discover how God has prepared you for a unique ministry that only you can fulfill.

REMEMBER:

1. Have fun! These are not "tests"! There are no right or wrong answers. The purpose is to show how you are a unique blend!
2. Each one is self-evaluating. No one is "rating" you on this. We're interested in your feelings, not others. However, it may be helpful to ask for additional input from those closest to you *after* you've filled in your own responses.
3. The value of each of these tools will vary depending on your age, how long you've been a Christian, your background, your honesty, and how much time and serious thinking you're willing to invest in them!
4. **AS YOU COMPLETE EACH TOOL, TRANSFER YOUR RESULTS TO THE FORM CALLED "MY MINISTRY PROFILE" (Pg 34-37)**

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A Condensed Overview

"Now about spiritual gifts I do not want you to be ignorant." 1 Cor. 12:1

A SPIRITUAL GIFT: Is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ

10 TRUTHS

1. Only ___BELIEVERS_____ have spiritual gifts. 1 Cor. 2:14
2. Every Christian has at least _____ONE_____ gift. 1 Cor. 7:7
3. No one receives _____ALL THE GIFTS_____ the gifts. 1 Cor. 12:27-30
4. No single gift is given to ___EVERYONE_____. 1 Cor. 12:29-30
5. You can't _____EARN OR WORK FOR_____ a spiritual gift. Eph. 4:7
6. The ___HOLY SPIRIT _____ decides what gifts I get. 1 Cor. 12:11
7. The gifts I'm given are _____PERMANENT_____. Rom. 11:29
8. I am to _____DEVELOP_____ the gifts God gives me. 1 Tim. 4:14
9. It's a sin to ___WASTE_____ the gifts God gave me. 1 Cor. 4:1-2 Mt. 25:14-30
10. Using my gifts _____GLORIFIES___ God and _____GROWS ___ me. John 15:8

THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. NOT FOR MY BENEFIT, BUT _____ FOR OTHERS_____.

*"Each one of you, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the **good of others**, the spiritual gift he has received from God." 1 Peter 4:10 (GN)*

"The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church." 1 Cor. 12:7 (LB)

B. TO PRODUCE ___ MATURITY___ AND ___ STABILITY___ IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY.

"It was He who gave gifts to men... to build up the Body of Christ so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith... and become mature... Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind..." Eph. 4:11, 13-14 (GN)

CAUTIONS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Don't confuse gifts with natural talents.
2. Don't confuse gifts with the Fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:22-23
 - * "Fruit" shows my Maturity.
 - * "Gifts" show my Ministry.
3. Don't confuse gifts with Christian roles.
4. Be aware of the *"gift projection"* tendency. (Expecting others to serve the way you do and have similar results)
5. Don't feel my gift makes me superior to others. 1 Cor. 12:21
6. Realize that using my gifts without love is worthless! *"I may be able to speak the languages of men and even of angels... I may have the gift of inspired preaching... I may have all knowledge... and all the faith to move mountains -- but if I have not love, I am nothing... it does no good."* 1 Cor. 13:1-3 (GN)
7. Recognize that I have both a *Primary* and a *Secondary* ministry in my church:

* My *PRIMARY MINISTRY* commitment should be in

the area where I am

___GIFTED_____

My *SECONDARY MINISTRY* includes serving in any other area of the Body when I am

___NEEDED_____.

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT

Get Started!

S _____ STUDY _____
See suggested book list

T _____ TRIAL AND ERROR _____
Experiment with different areas of service

A _____ ANALYZE _____
Use the "unwrapping My Gift" Tool

R _____ REQUEST RESPONSES FROM OTHERS _____
Ask others what gifts they see in me.

T _____ TAKE TRAINING _____
Take advantage of Trainings and Seminars

Three Ways God Wants You to Use Your Gifts

1. Through an Ongoing Ministry
2. Through Short-Term Projects
3. Through Spontaneous Situations

**IT'S EASIER TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT THROUGH MINISTRY THAN TO
DISCOVER YOUR MINISTRY THROUGH YOUR GIFT**

UNWRAPPING MY GIFTS

The Bible does not lock us into tight restrictions as to the number of spiritual gifts, or even their definitions. The four major lists of gifts are found in Romans 12:8, 1 Cor. 12:1-11, 27-31, and Eph. 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:9-11 but there are other passages that mention or illustrate gifts not included in these lists.

GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD'S WORD

(to both unbelievers and believers)

PREACHING ("Prophecy") 1 Cor. 14:3

The ability to publicly communicate God's word in an inspired way that convinces unbeliever and both challenges and comforts believers. The ability to persuasively declare God's will.

EVANGELISM Acts 8:26-40

The ability to communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to unbelievers in a positive, non-threatening way. The ability to sense opportunities to share Christ and lead people to respond with faith.

TEACHING Eph. 4:12-13

The ability to educate God's people by clearly explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn. The ability to equip and train other believers for ministry.

GIFTS THAT BUILD UP GOD'S PEOPLE

ENCOURAGEMENT ("Exhortation") Acts 14:22

The ability to motivate God's people to apply and **act on** Biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or wavering in their faith. The ability to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential.

WISDOM 1 Cor. 2:1, 6-16

The ability to understand God's perspective on life situations and share those insights in a simple, understandable way. The ability to explain what to do and how to do it.

DISCERNMENT 1 John 4:1-6

The ability to distinguish right from wrong, truth from error, and to give an immediate evaluation based on God's Word. The ability to discern whether the source of an experience is Satan, self, or God's Spirit

KNOWLEDGE Daniel 1:17

The ability to discover, collect, analyze, and organize information that is vital to individual believers or the entire church family. The ability to comprehend a large amount of information and provide it when needed for effective decision-making.

LEADERSHIP Rom.12:8

The God---given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by casting vision, stimulating spiritual growth, applying strategies, and achieving success where God's purposes are concerned.

FAITH I Cor. 12:9

The God---given special ability to Serve and strengthen the body of Christ by stepping out in faith in order to see God's purposes accomplished, trusting him to handle any and all obstacles along the way.

GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE

ADMINISTRATION 1 COR 12:28

The God--given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by effectively organizing resources and people in order to efficiently reach ministry goals.

SERVICE Acts 6:1-7

The ability to recognize unmet needs in the church family, and take the initiative to provide practical assistance quickly, cheerfully, and without a need for recognition

MERCY Luke 10:30-37

The ability to detect hurt and empathize with those who are suffering in the church family. The ability to provide compassionate and cheerful support to those experiencing distress, crisis, or pain.

HOSPITALITY 1 Peter 4:9-10

The ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed, accepted, and comfortable in the church family. The ability to coordinate factors that promote fellowship

PASTORING ("Shepherding") 1 Peter 5:2-4

The ability to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers and equip them for ministry. The ability to nurture a small group in spiritual growth and assume responsibility for their welfare.

GIVING 2 Cor. 8:1-7

The ability to generously contribute material resources and/or money beyond the 10% tithe so that the Body may grow and be strengthened. The ability to earn and manage money so it may be given to support the ministry of others.

HELPS Rom. 12:7, 28

The God--given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by offering others assistance in reaching goals that glorify God and strengthen the body of Christ.

GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE

(Worship or prayer-related gifts)

MUSIC Psalm 150

The ability to celebrate God's presence through music, either vocal or instrumental, and to led the church family in worship.

ARTS & CRAFTS Exodus 31:3-11

The ability to build, maintain, or beautify the place of worship for God's glory. The ability to express worship through a variety of art forms.

INTERCESSION Col. 1:9-12

The ability to pray for the needs of others in the church family over extended periods of time on a regular basis. The ability to persist in prayer and not be discouraged until the answer arrives.

Take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory Test Given in the following pages and add your results in the Ministry Profile(Page 34-37)

MODIFIED HEIGHTS SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Read and answer each of the 75 statements by marking the box that corresponds to the extent the statement is true in your life:

Frequently - 3 Sometimes - 2 Seldom - 1 Never - 0

CAUTION! Do not answer according to what you think should be true or hope might be true in the future. Be honest and answer based on your experience.

STEP 2

When you are finished, score the survey by using the Heights Spiritual Gifts Survey Summary Chart on Page 19

S. No.	For each statement, mark the box for the description that best applies to your life:	Frequently 3	Sometimes 2	Seldom 1	Never 0
1	I have unusual sensitivity for recognizing thoughts or impressions that are from the Holy Spirit.				
2	I respond freely and willingly to requests for financial support of worthy Christian endeavours.				
3	I find joy in assuming routine aspects of another's responsibilities to free them for other things.				
4	Using knowledge that could not have originated in myself, I recognize situations in which the Spirit wants to work.				
5	I have a great desire to offer encouragement and direction to those who are troubled, distressed, or making important life decisions.				
6	When I speak out or provide leadership, people usually listen, agree, and follow my input or advice.				
7	I have non-Christian friends to whom I witness directly or indirectly.				
8	People have been encouraged because I was willing to guide and support them over an extended period of time.				
9	I feel a deep concern for the spiritual welfare of Christians who are in a crisis.				
10	I would like to be involved in helping the homeless.				
11	I have a desire to proclaim the truth that I have received from God with authority and conviction.				
12	I enjoy sharing God's promises from Scripture as a means of encouraging others.				
13	I see practical tasks that need to be done and do them quietly, without others noticing.				
14	I feel comfortable spending time with non-Christians, never compromising my faith, but seeking to be light to them.				
15	I find enjoyment working out the details necessary to organise people and resources for a more effective ministry.				
16	I enjoy inspiring and leading others for the sake of Christ's work.				
17	I have believed God can accomplish the impossible and have seen it happen in a tangible way.				
18	I have experienced an instant understanding of facts concerning people which I did not learn by natural means.				
19	I have had great dreams and aspirations which have turned into reality despite the unlikeness of accomplishing them.				
20	When counselling a person, I can identify a problem correctly.				

21	I have an ability to see the “big picture” of a project and can coordinate others who only see various parts.				
22	I enjoy making anonymous donations when sharing my financial and material resources with others.				
23	I seem to have the ability to see how the Lord is working in people’s lives, even in times of trial.				
24	I like to do the small tasks that build up the body of Christ.				
25	I am a strong believer that some individuals, including myself, should give more than a tithe (10%) of their income for the Lord’s work.				
26	I often sense a presence of good or evil in a person.				
27	People tend to call on me when help is needed for someone in distress.				
28	When I talk one-to-one with people, it frequently spurs them to take some positive action.				
29	I care deeply about those who haven’t received Christ and feel God can use me to reach out to them.				
30	Serving others is high on my priority, no matter what the task.				
31	I have been instrumental in leading others to believe in Christ as their Saviour.				
32	I have the capacity to believe in the fulfilment of God’s plans beyond normal or probable expectations.				
33	I like to study the Bible in such a way that I can find personal application to what I am studying.				
34	I find myself working behind the scenes without the need for public recognition.				
35	I seem to know when a situation is not right spiritually or morally.				
36	When faced with a complex problem, I am able to isolate the heart of the problem and take steps to resolve it.				
37	I seem to have a special ability to sense the mind of the Holy Spirit.				
38	I am willing to be available to those I encourage spiritually.				
39	God has revealed to me people’s situations or problems.				
40	I have delivered urgent messages from God’s Word concerning the present or future.				
41	I often rearrange my schedule to help others.				
42	I exhibit confident trust in God despite apparent obstacles and increase the vision and trust of others in the Body.				
43	I can work under pressure to accomplish established goals and objectives.				

44	During the discussion and sharing of a problem, I can share in a way that clarifies what is needed to resolve the problem.				
45	I am always gathering up clothing, household items and food for the needy.				
46	I am able to share the Gospel in a way that makes it clear and meaningful to non-believers.				
47	I apply spiritual truth effectively in my own life.				
48	My sharing of financial and material resources for Christian endeavours is one of the great joys of my Christian walk.				
49	Preparing meals or helping those less fortunate gives me great satisfaction and pleasure.				
50	Though it may be difficult, I would be very willing to take charge in a situation where someone in the church needs to be disciplined.				
51	I want to make myself available to be used for any type of duty or task in the church.				
52	I have gained spiritual insight from the Scriptures concerning people and issues which make me want to speak out.				
53	The long-term spiritual welfare of family, friends, and acquaintances is very important to me.				
54	I enjoy communication biblical truth to others and seeing growth in their knowledge of the Christian faith.				
55	I can distinguish between works of flesh and fruit of the Spirit.				
56	Others tell me they gain new insight into biblical truth as a result of my leading a Bible study.				
57	I have suddenly known things that are needed by a person or group, though I didn't know how I came to know these things.				
58	I feel God has spoken to me through the Spirit, providing direction and spiritual insight for myself, my family or a group of believers.				
59	I openly share my material possessions with others when they are in need (i.e. tools, car, etc.).				
60	I openly share my material possessions with others when they are in need (i.e. tools, car, etc.).				
61	I enjoy providing oversight and direction for a group's follow-through on its spiritual goals and objectives.				
62	I have contributed spiritual insight to the solution of conflicts or problems within the Body of Christ.				
63	People are often amazed at my wisdom, even if I may not have much academic				
64	I enjoy short-term tasks rather than long-term projects.				
65	I feel deep empathy for people who are suffering and translate my feelings into action.				
66	People have told me that I have helped them grow spiritually.				

67	Others in the church have confirmed I can “sense” the motives of a person’s heart.				
68	People seek me out when they need guidance for planning and managing a particular task related to ministry.				
69	I am able to speak enthusiastically and clearly about doctrinal truth, proving comfort, guidance, warning, or encouragement.				
70	I feel confident, when I give sacrificially, the Lord will provide for my needs.				
71	I have shared biblical truth with others in a way they have found meaningful and helpful.				
72	I receive great joy and peace discipling others in their spiritual walk.				
73	I confidently expect God to respond to situations I have committed to Him in prayer.				
74	Teaching others the biblical truths I have learned through Bible study is very satisfying to me.				
75	People seem to look to me for leadership when I am in a group.				

Modified Heights Spiritual Gifts Summary Chart

1. In the chart below enter the numerical value if each of your responses next to the number corresponding to the statement from the questionnaire.

Frequently - 3 Sometimes - 2 Seldom - 1 Never - 0

2. Add up the five numbers you have recorded in each row and place the sum in the "TOTAL" column.

Gift ID No.	Statement Numbers and Value of Answers					Total	Spiritual Gift
1.	1.	4.	18.	39.	57.		Knowledge
2.	20.	26.	35.	55.	67.		Discernment
3.	2.	22.	25.	48.	70.		Giving
4.	3.	34.	41.	59.	64.		Helps
5.	5.	9.	12.	23.	28.		Exhortation
6.	6.	16.	50.	61.	75.		Leadership
7.	7.	14.	29.	31.	46.		Evangelism
8.	8.	38.	53.	66.	72.		Pastoring
9.	10.	27.	45.	49.	65.		Mercy
10.	11.	40.	52.	58.	69.		Prophecy
11.	13.	24.	30.	51.	60.		Service
12.	15.	21.	36.	43.	68.		Administration
13.	33.	54.	56.	71.	74.		Teaching
14.	17.	19.	32.	42.	73.		Faith
15.	37.	44.	47.	62.	63.		Wisdom

Circle the Top 3 scores and write the corresponding spiritual gifts here –

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Record the result in your ministry profile (pg 34-36)