

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

Overview

This **Spiritual Gifts Inventory** is designed to assist you in defining your strengths that relate to ministry and service in our church. The inventory is not designed to be an exhaustive analysis of spiritual gifts. Its purpose is to highlight areas of strength based on what you feel motivates you spiritually and to enable you to pinpoint areas of ministry for which you are gifted.

We want you to see more clearly, through the results of this evaluation, what your strengths and gifts are and to have a clearer vision of what ministries God wants you to perform in the body of Christ.

As a member of the body of Christ, you are crucial to the health and strength of the body. The church will only function as God intends if each member does his or her part. That is why we have a strong conviction that each member has a place of ministry in the church. This booklet will give you information that will help you find the place of service God intends for you in your church.

Explanation of Inventory Score Sheet

When you score yourself, keep in mind that all of the traits listed are desirable for Christians to have. Giving yourself a 0 or a 1 on a particular trait does not mean that you are unspiritual in that area. It simply means that trait is not a primary motivating factor for you and indicates that is not a primary area in which you are gifted.

Remember, the church will not see your individual scores. The church leadership team will use this information to develop a composite total of all member scores so that they can use the information to highlight areas for which the members are gifted and motivated. Once the church identifies these primary areas of ministry strength, that information can be used to identify specific service opportunities that may interest you. The inventory will guide the leadership team in finding the best place of service for you in the church.

Administration

Persons gifted in this area of administration are goal and objective oriented. They have strong organizational skills and are able to coordinate resources to accomplish tasks quickly. They are motivated by accomplishing desired tasks and often derive great satisfaction from viewing the results of what they have accomplished. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in an area of ministry in which you can utilize your organizational strengths to carry out the church's measurable goals. (Measurable goals are objectives such as numerical growth, ministries, advance, and mission's expansion.)

Evangelism

Persons gifted in the area of evangelism have a strong desire to share the gospel with nonbelievers in every situation and by all possible means. Their greatest joy in ministry is seeing the unsaved won to Christ. They have a deep desire to fulfill the Great Commission's evangelistic emphasis and prefer to devote more time and effort to the ministry of evangelism than to other church ministries that are for the edification of believers. These persons look for areas where the need for the gospel is greatest and are willing to make personal sacrifices to share the gospel. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in a ministry that places great emphasis on sharing the gospel with the unsaved and reaching out to unchurched.

Exhortation

Persons gifted in the area of exhortation have a special ability to encourage others in the body of Christ by giving them words of comfort, encouragement, and counsel in times of need. They are attracted to individuals seeking spiritual growth and often are willing to share their past personal failures to help motivate others toward greater spiritual maturity. Persons gifted in exhortation can make accurate assessments of people's spiritual needs and have the ability to explain truth logically; giving step-by-step instructions that are easy to follow. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in an area where you can use your strengths to minister one-on-one to people in need.

Giving

Persons gifted in the area of giving have the ability to give material goods and financial resources with joy so that the needs of the Lord's work are met. They often can discern wise investments and usually are effective money managers. They want to give quietly without recognition and are encouraged where these persons are more likely to give at the Lord's promptings than at humans' appeals. They have the ability to see financial needs others may overlook. If you scored high in this area, you should consider prayerfully what ministries of the church to support with your finances and how your example can motivate others to follow the Lord's leadership in their giving.

Helps

Persons gifted in the area of helps are motivated by a desire to further the church's ministry by meeting the needs of others, especially those in leadership positions. They enjoy giving immediate help to key individuals in order to relieve them of their burdens and responsibilities. While these persons are willing to do whatever is needed, they are motivated more by a desire to provide assistance than a desire to accomplish a task. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in a ministry in which you can provide assistance to someone in a leadership role to enable them to be more effective than they would be without you.

Hospitality

Persons gifted in the area of hospitality have the ability to make guests feel comfortable and at home. They have a desire to provide a warm welcome to guests, whether in a ministry or social setting. They often delight in opening their homes to individuals or groups and often look for opportunities to use their gift to minister to others. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in a ministry where you can use your strengths to help make others in the church feel at home.

Leadership

Persons gifted in the area of leadership have the ability to lead others toward spiritual growth. They often are considered visionary and have the ability to set goals and motivate others toward accomplishing the goals. They usually have the ability to communicate effectively to large groups of people. These persons often are chosen for leadership positions because of their ability to accomplish objectives. While giftedness in leadership is similar to giftedness in administration, persons gifted in leadership often are more concerned with the “big picture” than with the details of accomplishing tasks. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in an area of ministry in which you can use your strengths to lead others in accomplishing the church’s measurable and non-measurable goals. (Non-measurable goals are objectives such as spiritual growth, atmosphere, and attitudes.)

Mercy

Persons gifted in the area of mercy have immediate compassion for those who are suffering physically, spiritually, or emotionally. They derive great joy from meeting the needs of others and often attract people who are in distress. These persons usually need friendships in which there is deep communication and mutual commitment. They have the ability to draw out the feelings of others and are willing to be vulnerable to hurts, both directly and from feeling the hurts of others. They prefer to remove the cause of hurts rather than to look for spiritual benefits from them. Persons gifted in mercy have a tendency to avoid confrontation and firmness. They often close their spirit to those whom they feel are overly harsh or critical. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in an area of ministry that enables you to minister to those who are hurting and who need the sensitivity you have to offer.

Prophecy

Persons gifted in the area of prophecy have the ability to proclaim God's truth without compromise. They have strong convictions and expect others to have similar convictions. They need to express themselves verbally, especially about being right or wrong. These persons may be quick to make judgement of others and quick to speak their opinions. They possess an unusual ability to discern others' sincerity and may be painfully direct when correcting others. They are persuasive in defining right and wrong and are persistent in expressing their feelings about the need for change. If you scored high in this area, you should look for a ministry area in which you can challenge others to live by God's standards as set forth in His Word.

Service

Persons gifted in the area of service have the ability to perform any task with joy that benefits others and meets practical needs. They may have a tendency to disregard personal health and comfort to serve others. They often have difficulty saying no when asked to serve. These persons often have an affinity for details and appreciate having clear instructions. They enjoy the process of serving as much as the end result and derive satisfaction from being with others who are serving. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in an area of ministry in which your strengths of faithfulness and attention to detail can be utilized.

Shepherding

Persons gifted in the area of shepherding have the unique ability to take the responsibility for the long-term spiritual growth of a group of believers. They see guiding, feeding, and protecting a flock of Christ's followers as their responsibility. They are motivated by a desire to see those under them enjoying spiritual health and growth. If you scored high in this area, you should look for an area of ministry where discipleship is emphasized and in which you can guide others to greater spiritual maturity.

Teaching

Persons gifted in the area of teaching have the ability to explain God's truth so that others can understand and apply it in their lives. They have the ability to research and present truth in an organized, systematic fashion. They are alert to details and place great emphasis on accuracy. These persons are motivated by the desire to learn and share knowledge with others. They believe strongly in the importance of teaching as a basic foundation on which the church grows and remains faithful. If you scored high in this area, you should consider being involved in a ministry in which you can challenge others with Bible truths that you have discovered in your personal studies.