

Grayson United Methodist Church

gifted for

SERVICE

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. (Romans 12:6-8)

We all have gifts given to us by God. Below, you will find 35 statements which may help you discover your basic gift or gifts. Rate yourself with the following scale by writing the appropriate number to the corresponding question (listed at Q1, Q2, Q3, etc.) As you are reading each statement, ask yourself "Is this statement true in my spiritual life and experience?" You can answer in anticipation, "I'd like to do this in my life"!

After you have completed the test by rating yourself for each of the 35 statements, add the scores in each horizontal row. Record the number in the total column. Your total score for each row indicate your level of interest in that particular gift. The highest scores may lead you to a clear understanding of the basic spiritual gift or gifts God has deposited in your life. It will show your basic tendencies and give you a very strong indication of your gift which motivates you on a daily basis.

Rate each statement by:

4) Greatly 3) Somewhat 2) Little 1) Rarely 0) Not at All

Once you have rated each statement, fill in the table below.
The total will help you find and develop your ministry.

| ROW A | Q1 | Q8 | Q15 | Q22 | Q29 | TOTAL | GIFT |
|--------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|
| ROW B | Q2 | Q9 | Q16 | Q23 | Q30 | | |
| ROW C | Q3 | Q10 | Q17 | Q24 | Q31 | | |
| ROW D | Q4 | Q11 | Q18 | Q25 | Q32 | | |
| ROW E | Q5 | Q12 | Q19 | Q26 | Q33 | | |
| ROW F | Q6 | Q13 | Q20 | Q27 | Q34 | | |
| ROW G | Q7 | Q14 | Q21 | Q28 | Q35 | | |

Row A: Prophecy
Row E: Giving

Row B: Serving
Row F: Leadership/Organizer

Row C: Teaching

Row D: Encouragement
Row G: Mercy

- Q1) I enjoy presenting God's truth in an inspired and enthusiastic way when it is revealed to me.
- Q2) I am always ready to overlook my own personal comfort so that the needs of others may be met.
- Q3) I find great delight in explaining the truth of a text within its context.
- Q4) I am able to verbally encourage those who waver and are spiritually troubled.
- Q5) I am able to manage my financial affairs efficiently so that I can give generously to the Lord's work.
- Q6) I find it easy to delegate responsibility and organize others in spiritual achievement.
- Q7) I find myself sympathizing with the misfortunes of others.
- Q8) I am conscious of a persuasiveness of speech when encouraging people to examine their spiritual motives.
- Q9) I have the knack of making people feel at home.
- Q10) I delight in digging out facts concerning the Bible so that I can pass them on to others.
- Q11) I have a deep concern to encourage people toward spiritual growth and achievement.
- Q12) I am cheerful about giving material assets so that the Lord's work can be furthered.
- Q13) I am able to effectively supervise the activities of others.
- Q14) I enjoy visiting those in the hospital or the shut-ins.
- Q15) I have the insights to present the Word of God to people with clarity and conviction.
- Q16) I am happy when asked to assist others in the Lord's work, without necessarily being appointed to a leadership position.
- Q17) I am concerned that the truth should be presented in a clear fashion with proper attention to the meaning of the words.
- Q18) I am at my best when treating those who are spiritually wounded.
- Q19) I have no problem in joyfully entrusting my assets to others for the work of the ministry.
- Q20) I am able to plan the actions of others with ease and supply them with details which will enable them to work freely.
- Q21) I have a great concern with those involved in trouble.
- Q22) I find myself speaking for a verdict when I perceive truths from the word of God that God wants people to know.
- Q23) I delight in providing a gracious haven for guests.
- Q24) I am diligent in my study of the Bible and give careful attention to necessary research.
- Q25) I am able to help those who need counseling over personal problems.
- Q26) I am able to give myself, and make myself available for all sections of the church.
- Q27) I am deeply sensitive to the need of a smooth running administration so every phase of activity is carried out decently and in order.
- Q28) I work happily with those who are ignored by the majority.
- Q29) I find that I know instinctively where people are at.
- Q30) I enjoy taking the load from key people so they can put more effort into their own particular task.
- Q31) I am able to explain well how the Bible hangs together.
- Q32) I am acutely aware of what holds people back in their spiritual development and long to help them overcome their problems.
- Q33) I am careful with money and continually pray over its proper distribution in the work of the Lord.
- Q34) I know where I am going and am able to take others with me.
- Q35) I am able to relate to others emotionally, and am quick to help where help is needed.

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Understanding Spiritual Gifts

SPIRITUAL*gifts*:

noun

The special ability given by the **HOLY SPIRIT** to every member of the **Body of Christ** according to **God's Grace** for use with one context of the **Body**.

Grayson United Methodist Church

555 Grayson Parkway

Grayson, GA 30017

DAY one

“Desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.”

1 Corinthians 14:1

Motivational *Gift* of Prophecy

Romans 12:9

Today's verse describes the spirit of someone who has the gift of prophecy. Such a person feels the need to express his or her thoughts and attitudes verbally, especially regarding right or wrong. They possess an innate desire to comment when they see something that does not adhere to the word of **GOD**, and they equally are willing to verbalize their agreement with something they believe is in harmony with scripture.

A person with the gift of prophecy possesses the ability to identify character traits and motives of other people, rather easily. He will reject dishonesty of any form, and can see through insincerity. This person will see a problem, realize the future consequences, and without being interested in details, verbalize a correction to the problem.

This person also desires righteousness and holiness in his life, and he is willing to discuss his spiritual state. Naturally, this means he also has a genuine concern for the reputation and program of **GOD**. He will become defensive if **GOD** is blamed for something or is criticized for something.

This person also can be painfully direct when correcting someone—though this should be done in love—and very persuasive in his arguments. Who in the New Testament best exemplifies this gift? Who always spoke first? Who stood to speak first?

NOTES:

DAY two

“A Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.”

Martin Luther

Motivational *Gift* of Service

Hebrews 6:6-12

In Philippians 2:19-20, Paul tells the believers in Philippi that he hoped to send Timothy to them so that he could hear how they were doing: “For I have no one else of Kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned with your welfare.”

From this Scripture and others, we learn that Timothy was a superb model of someone with the **GIFT OF SERVICE**. This gift supplies someone the drive to detect the practical needs of others and to meet those needs in love.

A person driven to serve also takes joy in serving others when it frees that person to do more important things. For instance, if a church member, secretary, etc., shoulders a burden of service from a pastor, then he or she enjoys the fact that the pastor now has more time to delve into **GOD’S WORD** and be ready to impart it more clearly every week. A service-gifted believer has a need for appreciation, confirming for him or her that the service is necessary and satisfactory.

This person will even go as far as to neglect personal health and needs in order to meet the needs of others. Notice in 1 Timothy 5:23 that Paul told Timothy to nurse his own frequent ailments.

Are you **MOTIVATED** to be around others and to help them? Do you feel unqualified for spiritual leadership? If so, you may be a lot like Timothy.

NOTES:

DAY three

“So that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.” Luke 1:1-4

Motivational *Gift* of Teaching

Colossians 3:16

The believer who possesses the gift of teaching has as his foremost drive the desire to turn the light on for you - to present the truth in the clearest way possible. **LUKE** is a good example of this gifted believer. Not much is written about Luke. But much is written *by* Luke, one of Paul's chief aids, and we can tell a great deal about him through his words. For instance, in Luke 1, we learn that he felt compelled to give an orderly account of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ: *“It seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it all out for you in consecutive order...”* (v.3)

Luke undoubtedly was gifted for teaching, because the first characteristic of this gift is that the person desires to present truth in a systematic sequence. This person emphasizes the importance and accuracy of **WORDS**; he delights in researching and reporting as many facts as possible on a subject, and he is alert to facts or details not noticed or mentioned by most people.

The believer who is driven by teaching tends to test the knowledge of those who teach him. He also shies away from using illustrations from extra-biblical sources. He prefers biblical examples. Plus, the teacher prefers **RESEARCHING** to presenting the facts. He would rather stay in the background and do the precise work. Just like Luke.

NOTES:

DAYfour

“Encourage one another day after day...”

Hebrews 3:13

Motivational Gift of Exhortation

Colossians 1:28-29

An exhorter is someone who literally or figuratively puts his arm around another to give **ENCOURAGEMENT**. The apostle Paul was a beautiful example of an encourager. The New

Testament is mostly comprised of his exhortations to believers. The Greek word for exhorter is PARAKLETOS, the very word that JESUS used to describe the Holy Spirit. It means “comforter” or “helper”. Obviously, exhortation is a crucial gift for the Body of Christ. The person with the gift of exhortation wants to be sure that others are growing in their spiritual lives. He is oriented toward discipleship, growth, and maturity of fellow believers. The exhorter is interested not so much in actions as he is in attitude, and he can visualize **SPIRITUAL ACHEIVEMENT** for individuals and use this to inspire them to grow. The exhorter can discern where an individual is spiritually and speak to him on that level. The exhorter can also give precise steps of growth to help others.

One interesting aspect of the exhorter is he tends to welcome personal tribulation for the sake of growth. Where the gift of mercy would say, “Oh, you poor thing, I’m so sorry,” the gift of exhortation says, “Praise God! You are growing! Here are the first three steps to approach this situation...” Just as Paul, the exhorter, wishes to present others complete in Christ.

When your view of the Christian life is distorted, it can sometimes feel like a roller coaster, moving from day to day on highs and lows. However, God intended your life in Him to be much greater.

Many believers come to know the Lord, but don’t take to heart all the truths in **GOD’S WORD**. They do not believe the truth because they do not realize the truth.

Paul understood this was a common struggle, therefore, he tells us we need to renew our minds. But, how do we do that? First, we need to acknowledge our position in Christ. Once we accept Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection as salvation for our lives, our position has changed. We are one of GOD’S Children, joint heirs with Christ. (Romans 8:17)

Next, we need to choose to set our mind on truth. We always live up to what we believe, which is why we need to establish a set of beliefs that are in line with God’s Word through consistent reading and meditation in The Word.

Lastly, we need to be discerning about the origin of our thoughts. Our thinking should always be in line with God’s Word. If not, know that it’s the enemy, not the Lord, whispering lies.

DAY five

“GOD loves a cheerful giver”

2 Corinthians 9:7

Motivational *Gift* of Giving

Luke 6:38

We have been reviewing spiritual gifts and providing a biblical character whose life exemplified each gift. Who in the New Testament has the **GIFT OF GIVING**?

You may be surprised to discover it is Matthew. A tax collector before Christ called him; he was accustomed to working with money. The Lord used **MATTHEW** more than He did any other writer in discussing giving. Matthew includes more wise counsel on giving than anyone else. He is the only one who advised giving in secret; he is the one who describes poor stewardship and misuse of finances.

Matthew undoubtedly had the first characteristic of someone with the gift of giving: a key ability to make wise purchases and investments in order to have money to give away. This person has the ability to visualize the end product of large projects. Interestingly, however, the gifted giver who is walking in the spirit also desire anonymity. He prefers to donate secretly so as not to attract attention from the Lord. He is not influenced easily by high-pressure appeals; in fact, he is only **MOTIVATED** by the Lord, not by other people.

God also blesses the giver with a unique ability to perceive financial needs that other people tend to overlook. The giver always seeks the ways and means of being used by God in giving of his money and himself.

NOTES:

DAYsix

The ruler is not just a dreamer; he is a dreamer in action.

Motivational *Gift* of Organization and Leadership

Nehemiah 1-2

Nehemiah is perhaps the Bible's most beautiful example of someone with the gift of organization. His precise and orderly leadership of the restoration of the walls of Jerusalem is the ideal model for any **LEADER** today. Some Bible versions describe this gift as organization and others call it administration or ruling. The person with this gift is highly motivated to achieve, to cross off a task from a "to-do" list, and to assume responsibility, authority, and accountability. In fact, the Greek word for this person literally means "one who stands out front." The organizer not only can visualize the big picture of a task but can see the job as already having been completed. This is a big key to goal-setting. The ruler or organizer accomplishes tasks by breaking down large jobs into more manageable jobs.

The old joke goes, "How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time!" Therefore, the ruler is never discouraged by the size of the task. Remember, Nehemiah remained undaunted as the work on the walls continued. The ruler is a self-starter with the motivation to **ORGANIZE** that for which he is responsible. He is able to surmise quickly the resources needed and available to reach a goal, and he delegates well and extricates himself from cumbersome details in order to concentrate on ultimate goals.

NOTES:

DAY seven

“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13

Motivational *Gift* of Mercy

Colossians 3:12-13

The person with the gift of mercy is the joy in the body of Christ, and more believers possess this gift than any other. The pulse of the merciful can be found in 1 Corinthians 13. Do you, as did John the Beloved, possess the following characteristics: the ability to feel or perceive an atmosphere of joy or distress in a person or group; the ability to discern quickly the emotional state of someone; the ability to be drawn and understand people suffering from mental and emotional distress? Where others see only an exterior or physical problem, the gift of **MERCY** looks past someone's physical need and senses the person is hurting on the inside. He has compassion for the sufferer, a desire to remove the hurts of others rather than to look for the benefits of the hurts. Exhortation and mercy sometimes clash over this point.

The person with the gift of mercy often has an intense loyalty to intimate friends and a tendency to react harshly when those friends have been hurt or wronged. It is no coincidence that John records the most precise account of Judas' betrayal of Jesus at the Last Supper. The merciful believer knows genuine Love, and he quickly perceives insincerity. John was a model of the merciful **BELIEVER**. Praise God if you have much in common with the Disciple Whom Jesus Loved!

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