

A SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCOVERY INVENTORY

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Epiphany Lutheran Church
5515 West Broadway
Pearland, TX 77581
281-485-7833
www.ShiningTheLight.org

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

St. Peter wrote, *“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.”* The apostle Paul stated, *“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”* (I Corinthians 12:7). These and other passages in the Holy Scripture assure us that all Christians have been blessed by the Holy Spirit with a certain gift or gifts as a means of building up the body of Christ, the Church. It then becomes our Christian responsibility to discover our gifts and use them for Christ’s purposes.

The Scripture does not give a definitive plan which describes how we are to discover our spiritual gifts. However, it does instruct us to find them and use them for the building of his Church. The goal is for all Christians to use their gifts to build up the body of Christ, *“until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”* (Ephesians 4:13).

On the following pages you will find an inventory which we hope will help you in discovering your gift or gifts. It is not a perfect instrument, but it should guide you and our congregation in cultivating our stewardship life together. This Gifts Discovery Inventory will be used with other materials and resources to assist our congregation to fulfill our mission.

Not all the spiritual gifts listed in the Bible are reflected in the inventory which follows. We are including the ones which we feel are most important for our congregation at the present time. Furthermore, God promises us that he will add gifts as needed by his Church.

God’s blessings to you as you prayerfully consider the statements which follow. *“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do you think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given.”* (Romans 12:3).

A GIFTS DISCOVERY INVENTORY

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. (Romans 12:6a)

You may answer each statement in this inventory with one of five responses: Definitely, Yes, Maybe, Probably Not, and No Way. (See attached Score Sheet.) Read each statement. Give it a moment of serious thought. Then, decide which response is best for you. Record your response on the Score Sheet. As you consider each statement, also give consideration to what other Christians may have said to you or about you regarding each.

1. I enjoy bearing the responsibility for the success of a group or organization.
2. Other people consider me to be artistic.
3. I am really handy when it comes to working with objects.
4. I seem to know very quickly whether something is right or wrong.
5. I enjoy helping people when they are down, perplexed, or in trouble.
6. I like to share with other people how Jesus brought me to himself.
7. I can trust in the presence and power of God even when others think it foolish.
8. I appreciate the opportunity to financially support a critical situation.
9. I have prayed specifically and personally for someone who was sick and healing occurred.
10. I appreciate helping other people to bear their burdens no matter how small.
11. I am more concerned with making a person feel comfortable and safe than I am with making an impression.
12. I pray often for other people by name, some-times even losing track of time when I do so.
13. Others seem to view me as one who has unique Bible knowledge.
14. I can adjust my style to motivate a wide variety of people to work together toward a common goal.
15. I seem to identify emotionally and mentally with others quite easily.
16. I love to sing or play praises to God either alone or with other people.
17. I enjoy being called upon to do special tasks around the church.
18. I feel motivated to restore persons who have wandered away from the truth or their Christian congregations.
19. Teaching a Sunday school or Bible Class sounds exciting to me.
20. It seems that many people seek and follow my advice.
21. I am able to handle a lot of details at the same time in order to accomplish a project.
22. I enjoy being creative when drawing, crafting, or building things.
23. I find that I have a knack for maintaining and repairing things.
24. It seems easy for me to determine if a person is telling the truth or a lie.
25. People tell me I am patient, caring and a good listener.
26. My conversations with unbelievers seem naturally to include spiritual matters.
27. People seem to view me as one who believes everything is possible.
28. I am willing to maintain a lower standard of living in order to benefit God's work.
29. I feel as a result of my prayers people have been restored to physical or emotional wholeness.
30. I like to help leaders with "small" tasks in order to relieve them so they can focus on their goals.
31. I like to spend time with people in order to make them feel comfortable and cared for.
32. Praying for other people is one of my favorite spiritual experiences.
33. It seems easy for me to learn difficult truths.
34. I seem to be able to lead large groups of people in decision-making processes.
35. I feel and accept the pain of others and have a desire to help them.
36. It is important to me that the music in worship be offered in as beautiful a way as possible.
37. When I see a task that needs to be done, I feel compelled to do it without being asked.
38. I like to take responsibility for people's spiritual well-being.

39. It seems that others learn when I teach them.
40. I feel that I have a special insight in selecting the best alternative in a difficult situation.
41. I find it easy to delegate and support people in accomplishing a project or a task.
42. I can visualize how something should look before I create it.
43. I find joy in creating objects of lasting value.
44. I can see through a phony before his phoniness is clearly evident to most other people.
45. I am usually able to lift the spirits of others when they have problems.
46. I find it a joy to share God's plan of salvation with other people.
47. I feel positive that I know God's will for the future of His kingdom and am willing to act on it even when others aren't so sure.
48. I want to see significant things happen for God's kingdom so I gladly give more than a tithe (10% of my income) to the church.
49. I have seen God answer my prayers for a miraculous healing.
50. I like to give assistance to other people so they can more easily accomplish their specific work.
51. I feel comfortable when people drop in on me unexpectedly.
52. I feel that when I am asked to pray for others, my prayers will have tangible results.
53. I can acquire and master new facts and principles relatively quickly.
54. Others seem to enjoy following me in doing tasks.
55. I feel compelled to comfort people during sickness, difficult problems or high anxieties.
56. I am anxious to seek out ways to use music to express my faith.
57. I find more satisfaction in quietly doing a job than finding someone else to do it.
58. People like to bring their spiritual troubles and concerns to me because they feel I care.
59. I enjoy researching truth and effectively communicating it to others at their level.
60. I seem to be able to intuitively arrive at solutions to complicated problems and/or situations.
61. I believe I have the ability to organize ideas, things, time and people for effective results.
62. I enjoy making things to express myself.
63. I like to do an excellent job of building and restoring things.
64. In spiritual matters, I am able to distinguish quickly and accurately between truth and error.
65. People who are feeling upset seem to come to me for encouragement and comfort.
66. I look for opportunities to build relationships with those who need to know Christ.
67. I am confident that even in difficult times I can accomplish great things for God.
68. It is a great joy to see how much I can give financially to the Lord's work.
69. I believe God has used me in a special way to help to cure people who were sick.
70. I enjoy doing routine tasks that lead to more effectively ministry by others.
71. I like to greet, welcome and create a warm atmosphere for those who attend various functions with me.
72. I believe prayer works, so I like to spend time with those who also pray regularly.
73. I find it an exciting challenge to read and understand difficult portions of the Bible.
74. I feel comfortable making important and needed decisions.
75. Other people think I am weak because I use my heart more than my head.
76. I have been complimented by others for my musical ability.
77. I feel great satisfaction in doing even small tasks for the glory of God.
78. I am willing to spend much time caring for and nurturing a group of people.
79. One of my joys is to try to teach people to be more effective Christians.
80. People recognize me as one who knows how to apply knowledge to everyday life.
81. Given a goal, I am able to develop a detailed and efficient strategy.
82. I find joy in the creation of pictures or objects of beauty.
83. I have made many objects in my home.
84. I feel I can accurately recognize whether a teaching is from God, from Satan, or of human origin.

85. I believe I am able to improve someone's life with works of acceptance, comfort, cheer, and/or admonishment.
86. I am so concerned for unbelievers that I feel constantly motivated to invite people to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.
87. I am ready to try the impossible because I have great trust in God.
88. I can give sacrificially because I know that God will meet my needs.
89. I have prayed successfully for others' restorations of mental or physical health.
90. I believe I would rather be an aid or helper to someone else instead of being the leader.
91. I have the ability to make strangers and/or guests feel at home when they are with me.
92. I seem to quickly recognize prayer needs.
93. I am sometimes surprised by the insights God gives me.
94. I have the vision and confidence needed to provide practical direction for groups.
95. I like to help other people even when I know I will get little in return.
96. I enjoy performing music to glorify God.
97. I prefer to work behind the scenes rather than in the public eye.
98. I enjoy establishing a close relationship with people and helping them grow spiritually.
99. I can help other people learn Biblical facts and truths which help in building their faith.
100. I feel a special presence of the Lord when important decisions need to be made.
101. I have the ability to organize and harmonize a group to accomplish goals.
102. I feel fulfilled when I am able to fashion to create something that helps others to see God's works.
103. I often find beauty in working with ordinary objects.
104. I believe I judge well between what is evil and what is good.
105. I like to give words of encouragement to those who are discouraged.
106. I look for many different ways to effectively share my faith with my friends.
107. I can trust in the reliability of God even when all else looks dim.
108. I feel deeply moved and respond accordingly when confronted with urgent material needs for God's work.
109. I have laid hands on people and watched them be healed.
110. I am usually ready, willing, and able to respond to helping people in emergencies.
111. I look for people who appear to be out of place to welcome them and make them feel at home.
112. I faithfully pray for others recognizing that their effectiveness and well-being depends on it.
113. I am often able to persuade other Christians based on the facts and my intuitions.
114. I enjoy leading, inspiring and motivating others to involve themselves in the Lord's work.
115. I feel a real burden to reach out and comfort those in need.
116. I can lead or accompany others in singing songs of praise to God and for pure enjoyment.
117. I am easily motivated to serve other people.
118. I like to help people struggling with their faith by guiding them through relevant portions of the Bible, challenging them, loving them and praying with them.
119. I can explain clearly and creatively the Bible's teachings to adults or children at their own level.
120. I have the ability to apply truth in my life on a day-to-day basis.

SPIRITUAL GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

The following are suggested definitions of the spiritual gifts utilized in the inventory you will complete. The first statements are the definition in detail followed by appropriate Scripture references. The phrase following the references is a summary definition of the gift.

- A. **Administration** – You have been blessed with the ability to make plans and decisions and to give direction on the behalf of others that result in the efficient attainment of goals. (1 Corinthians 12:28, 1 Corinthians 12:5, Acts 6:1-7, Romans 12:8, Acts 15:7-12, 1 Timothy 5:17) – Make plans and organize people to accomplish goals.
- B. **Artistry** – You have been blessed with the ability to use your hands, thoughts and mind to further the Kingdom of God through artistic, creative means. (Exodus 31:3-5a, Exodus 30:22-29) – Express one’s faith in creative, aesthetic arts.
- C. **Craftsmanship** – You have been blessed with the ability to use your expertise in the areas of maintenance, care and upkeep of physical things for the benefit and beautification of God’s Kingdom here on earth. (Exodus 31:5b, Acts 18:3, II Chronicles 34:9-13) – Create clever, solid and skillful items which serve the church.
- D. **Discernment** – You have been blessed with the ability to know with certainty whether certain words and/or behavior purported to be of God and the truth is in reality divine, demonic, psychological, artificial or untrue. (1 Corinthians 12:10, Acts 16:16-18, 1 John 4:1-6) – Confidently determine whether something is divine, human or satanic.
- E. **Encouragement** – You have been blessed with the ability to draw close to others in their time of need to comfort, counsel, encourage or admonish them. You further have the God-given gift of insight and understanding of life situations perceiving what to do and how to do it. (Romans 12:8, 1 Timothy 4:13, Hebrews 10:25, Acts 14:22, 1 Corinthians 12:8, Acts 6:3-10, II Peter 3:15, 1 Corinthians 2:1-13, II Corinthians 9:2) – Comfort, counsel and console others convincingly.
- F. **Evangelist** – You have been blessed with the ability to proclaim or present the good news of Christ with the result being that those who hear you become Disciples of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11, Acts 8:5-6, Acts 8:26-40, II Timothy 4:5, Acts 21:8) – Effectively verbalize the gospel with unbelievers.
- G. **Exceptional Faith** – You have been blessed with the ability to demonstrate a heroic, unwavering trust and confidence in the power of God to reveal Himself in extraordinary ways that seem impossible to almost everyone else. (1 Corinthians 12:9, Acts 27:21-25, Acts 11:22-24, Hebrews 11:33-38, Romans 4:18-21) – See with confidence the limitless possibilities.
- H. **Generosity** (sometimes called liberality or giving) – You have been blessed with the ability to share an extraordinary proportion of your material and financial resources with great joy and eagerness for the benefit of others. (Roman 12:8, II Corinthians 9:2, Luke 18:12, Malachi 3:10) Willingly donate wealth for God’s work to an extraordinary extent.
- I. **Healing** – You have been blessed with the ability to serve as a person, through whom it pleases God to cure emotional, physical, mental or spiritual illnesses and restore health, including times when He heals apart from the use of natural means. (I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 19:12, James 5:14-15) – Used by God to cure illness and restore health in unusual ways.

- J. Helping** - You have been blessed with the ability to sense a need and bring support to someone to relieve their burden and/or assist them in their ministry. (I Corinthians 12:28, Romans 16:1-2, Ephesians 6:5-90, Romans 12:7-8) – Invest in others to help them increase their effectiveness.
- K. Hospitality** – You have been blessed with the ability to care for those not in the immediate family in your home or elsewhere with joy and effectiveness. (Romans 12:9-13, Hebrews 13: 1-2, Acts 16:15) – Easily make strangers feel at home.
- L. Intercession** – You have been blessed with the ability to pray in an extraordinary manner for the needs of others successfully and continuously. (James 5:14-16, I Timothy 2:1-8) – Enjoy long, strenuous prayer on behalf of others.
- M. Knowledge** – You have been blessed with the special ability to discover, accumulate, analyze and clarify information and ideas, especially those drawn from the Scriptures that are pertinent to the growth and well-being of the Church. (Corinthians 12:8, Romans 15:14, I Corinthians 13:8) – Discover, accumulate, analyze and clarify information in extraordinary ways.
- N. Leadership** – You have been blessed with the ability to lead others effectively in various areas of ministry while offering personal concern and care for their growth. (Romans 12:8, Acts 15:7-12, I Corinthians 12:28) – Set and communicate goals which others willingly pursue.
- O. Mercy** – You have been blessed with the ability to have compassion for the underprivileged and suffering, and to discover ways of meeting their needs with an attitude of joy. (Romans 12:8, Acts 16:33-34, Hebrews 4:16, Matthew 5:7) – Genuinely empathize and cheerfully ease physical, mental and emotional sufferings.
- P. Musicianship** – You have been blessed with the ability to use your voice in singing praises to God, with the ability to play an instrument to His glory, and/or to lead others in the development of their gifts in this area. (II Chronicles 34:12, Deuteronomy 31:22, Psalms 150:3-6, I Chronicles 16:41-42, I Samuel 16:16, II Chronicles 5:12-13) – Serve God and bless others by creating or recreating music.
- Q. Serving** – You have been blessed with the ability to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God’s work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired goals. (Romans 12:7, II Timothy 1:16-18, II Corinthians 8:19-20) – Humbly identify unmet needs and make use of available resources to meet those needs.
- R. Shepherding** (also called the gift of pastor; not to be confused with the office of the pastorate) – You have the ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers. You are a Christian shepherding-type. (Ephesians 4:11-14, I Timothy 3:1-7, John 10:1-18, I Peter 5:1-3) Assume personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of an individual or a group of believers.
- S. Teaching** – You have been blessed with the ability to explain God’s truth to children and/or adults in a way that brings understanding and application. (I Corinthians 12:28, Romans 12:7, Ephesians 4:11, Acts 18:24-28, I Timothy 3:2, Acts 20:20-21) – Effectively communicate information and facilitate learning.
- T. Wisdom** – You have been blessed with the special ability to have unique insight and understanding of life situations which arise, perceiving what to do and how to do it. You are also able to utilize knowledge in such a way that, when it is applied, the Church is built up. (I Corinthians 12:8, Acts 6:3-10, II Peter 3:15, II Corinthians 9:2) – Understand how best to apply information to needs.

Note: Gifts should not be confused with fruit of the Holy Spirit as mentioned in Galatians 5, i.e., love, joy, etc.

Furthermore, gifts should not be confused with Christian roles, i.e., every Christian has the role of being kind and caring, but certain Christians have been blessed with the gift of shepherding.

DISCOVERY INVENTORY SCORE SHEET

Each response in this inventory has a number value:

Definitely = 4 Yes = 3 Maybe = 2 Probably Not = 1 No Way = 0

To complete your inventory, take the following step:

1. Read each statement in the inventory. As you decide which response is best for you, record its number value in the corresponding box on the Score Sheet. For example, for question 1, you selected “Definitely.” It has a value of 4. Therefore, you will put 4 in the number 1 box. Now complete the entire inventory.

Total

1	21	41	61	81	101		A
2	22	42	62	82	102		B
3	23	43	63	83	103		C
4	24	44	64	84	104		D
5	25	45	65	85	105		E
6	26	46	66	86	106		F
7	27	47	67	87	107		G
8	28	48	68	88	108		H
9	29	49	69	89	109		I
10	30	50	70	90	110		J
11	31	51	71	91	111		K
12	32	52	72	92	112		L
13	33	53	73	93	113		M
14	34	54	74	94	114		N
15	35	55	75	95	115		O
16	36	56	76	96	116		P
17	37	57	77	97	117		Q
18	38	58	78	98	118		R
19	39	59	79	99	119		S
20	40	60	80	100	120		T

Next score your inventory.

2. Total each line by adding the numbers you have written in each box. Write the figure in the Total Column on the Score Sheet.
3. Note the letters with the three highest scores in descending order. Record those letters on lines 1, 2 and 3 respectively in the “My Possible Dominant Gifts” section on the back of this page.
4. Note the letters with 4th, 5th and 6th highest scores in descending order. Record those letters on lines 1, 2 and 3 respectively in the “My Possible Subordinate Gifts” section on the back of this page.
5. Now compare the letters with the Spiritual Gifts list. Write the gift that corresponds with the letter on the appropriate line.

MY POSSIBLE DOMINANT GIFTS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

MY POSSIBLE SUBORDINATE GIFTS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- A Administration**
- B Artistry**
- C Craftsmanship**
- D Discernment**
- E Encouragement**
- F Evangelist**
- G Exceptional Faith**
- H Generosity**
- I Healing**
- J Helping**
- K Hospitality**
- L Intercession**
- M Knowledge**
- N Leadership**
- O Mercy**
- P Musicianship**
- Q Serving**
- R Shepherding**
- S Teaching**
- T Wisdom**

Name: _____

Date: _____