



## Spiritual Gifts Pt. 2

This is part two of understanding what the Spiritual (general) gifts are. Remember that these gifts are common to most people. You will see something of your character within each of these remaining five gifts. Yet, (the rule of thumb) is that you would rate higher in three. That means one gift is you more than all the others. However, that does not mean you don't have good attributes within two or three more gifts. A good example is I rate high in Exhortation. Equally, I rate fairly high in service. I don't have a high score in mercy. What it means is that I am merciful but my default leans towards teaching, encouraging, and serving others. My passion for helping is higher than being merciful although I have some mercy.

Continue to look at the first two from last week and study the remaining five today. Then it's time to take the test. It's not rocket science. The test only points out the obvious. It's confirming that you would most likely excel in a certain three gifts more than the others. Check out the remaining five gifts below.

3. **Teaching**- Romans 10:14 *"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"*
  - a. You:
    - i. the link between gifts, the church, and the lost?
    - ii. have traits that are linked to prophesy and interpretation
    - iii. Some preach and some teach. This is the crossover gift within many other gifts.
    - iv. have a passion to know and instruct.
    - v. Could be involved in school, preaching, group leader, or counseling people.
    - vi. may be a scholar, interpreter, or theologian

It's odd to me. In university they asked each student who were introverts and who were extroverts. Then they separated the room. Pastors are introverts and missionaries are extroverts. Some would call a pastor also a teacher. The Bible separates these two gifts. Odds are, a teacher is an introvert. They love to study. They love school and books. I feel they have passion for

knowledge. I suspect these types of people are theologians and Bible expositors. They have a special gift of having time to know. They have the gift of knowing how to teach individuals that are vastly different? A teacher gives us the facts. They research the truth. This type of person is most likely tolerant and honest. It's a great gift.

4. **Exhortation**- Hebrews 10:25 *"not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another-and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

a. You:

- i. Have the persuasive power of love, sympathy, and understanding
- ii. This type of gift needs a spirit filled life.
  1. It's not that the others don't need it, but the ability to know the right words and time to speak them is crucial to success. The Spirit knows
- iii. will throw light on, give wisdom, and offer revelation and insight
- iv. have a sense of careful consideration needed to speak wisely to people.
- v. Are an encourager
- vi. Possibly this person will instruct or have insight on matters of the past, present, and future.
  1. Not as prophesy but as understanding

This is a tricky gift. I call it bi-polar. You will either make friends or enemies. This type of person feels compelled to speak. They are pushed by the Spirit to act. An exhorter will see the character of a person and praise it. This person can see behavior and feel compelled to course correct it. We need these people and their wonderful gift. It's just a harsh gift to have. In many ways they are burden bearers. This gift bares the weight of praise and correction. They feel things about people.

5. **Giving**- 2 Corinthians 8:12 *"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have."*

a. You:

- i. Are usually stingy
- ii. Love to save for a rainy day
- iii. Always looking for a bargain
- iv. They are people who stay in the shadows
  1. They are not looking for praise in their giving
- v. They love finding cheaper ways of doing things
- vi. Believe that money should be used wisely so it goes further

- vii. This gift looks for opportunity to give
- viii. Has no fear of giving
- ix. Very spirit lead
- x. Feel dedicated to giving of their first fruits (time and money) to God

Some of the most caring and wonderful people in the world have this gift. They are always looking to give. It's not always about money either. These types of people give time, money, and resources to all sorts of causes. I do believe that these people are very deeply in tune with God. The Spirit will direct and push these individuals to act. These people passionately give, by being led by the Spirit. They are always looking for ways to give. If you want to know discernment in the church, ask a giver. They know where the money should go.

6. **Leading-** Exodus 18:21 *“But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.”*

- a. You:
  - i. Are meek
    - 1. Meaning that they are obedient to God
  - ii. Are the first to lead us into battle and the last to run away
  - iii. Give sound judgment, Spiritual advice, and decisive answers
  - iv. loves to direct the affairs of the church
  - v. However, they direct like a maestro rather than a general
  - vi. are good at getting other gifts to work together
  - vii. love orchestrating gifts to excel to the best of their ability
  - viii. This person knows their place under God and fear and relish the responsibility that leadership has.

This might be the most and least attractive gift. I say that because who wants to please all the kids (gifts)? Who wants to take the criticism and praise for all the failures and success in a church?

This gift can be fulfilling because you get to lead your way. It becomes your church that emulates your character. However, you get to put out the fires and steer the ship. This person is responsible

to God for all the gifts (people) he was given. People say they want to be the boss. How accountable to God do you want to be? This is a demanding gift that relies heavily on the Spirit for direction.

7. **Mercy**- Psalm 90:17 *“May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.”*

a. You:

i. Your gift is rich in mercy

1. Meaning: this person knows what mercy means to the heart all too well

ii. are kind and gentle

iii. are possibly a burden bearer

1. Someone who (inexplicably) feels where people’s hearts are at

iv. feel impelled to help and love

v. do not take sin lightly

vi. know humility because hurting and misguided people are your specialty

It’s odd, but most pastors don’t score highest in this gift. Why? Pastors see and hear misery every day. I bet most nurses don’t want to nurse when they get home from work. They do however have a passion for the sick and needy. When a person with a Mercy gift steps into a hospital, It’s game on for them. Pastors are running the ship. Compassion and time are not best friends. Paul said of enflamed sexual passion: either marry or don’t, you can’t have both. I think this is a stand-alone gift. Mercy people spend a ton of time helping the less fortunate. I suspect the needy seek out those with this gift. These people love being merciful. I am not so sure they get over burdened with this gift. They love hugging, crying, and holding hands. I bet these people listen better than most. This is a blessed gift to be sure.

It’s time to take a Spiritual gifts test. I have put the link below. Do not second guess your answers. Just be straight forward in your responses. Keep moving on and don’t dwell on a question. Give your first response and never change an answer. In the end you will see a picture of yourself that you

knew was there. Next week we'll talk about what you discovered. <https://gifts.churchgrowth.org/spiritual-gifts-survey/>