

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

First off, What is a “Spiritual Gift”? Def: Extraordinary graces given by the Holy Spirit to individual Christians for the good of others. Spiritual gifts are not just for us, they are meant to be shared. Once again, Why are we given these gifts? To serve others!!

Facts About Spiritual Gifts:

- What your Spiritual Gifts are, and figuring them out, is a lifelong process. And they might change as you go through your life.
- Spiritual gifts are mentioned throughout the bible. Here are some: prophesy, serving others, teaching, encouraging others, sharing money, generosity, leadership, kindness to others, ability to give wise advice, gift of special knowledge, special faith, power to heal sick, power to perform miracles, ability to know whether it is the spirit of God speaking or another spirit speaking, ability to speak and interpret unknown languages, being an apostle, helping others, and those who can get others to work together. These are just a few.
- There are 3 main passages in the bible that relate to listing Spiritual Gifts. They are: Romans: 12:3-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, Corinthians 12:27-31

STUDENTS: PLEASE LOOK THESE 3 BIBLE PASSAGES UP IN YOUR BIBLE AND READ THEM TO YOURSELF RIGHT NOW

- In our youth group (YG), we have one main verse and its smack-dab in the middle of the Corinthians verses. This passage is at the center of who we are and what we believe, and they’re all about gifts. Have the Confirmation Students look up, 1 Corinthians 12:14-27

STUDENTS: PLEASE LOOK THIS PASSAGE UP IN YOUR BIBLE AND READ IT TO YOURSELF RIGHT NOW

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

- Now you should be able to see why this is our main verse in YG, What is it essentially saying about gifts (even though it never says the actual word)?
- What are some of the gifts that you think that you have been given? Share.
- Do you ever feel envious of the gifts others have been given? Show of Hands.
- Why is important to share our gifts with others in good and bad times?

STUDENTS: FILL OUT THE "SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY"

(NOTE: The "Spiritual Gifts Inventory" is attached below, plus it immediately follows in the body of this e-mail.)

Spiritual Gifts Inventory

The following is a way for you to help discover your gifts, in anticipation of putting them to the best use for Jesus and in our church. The name of the spiritual gift is listed after each

sentence. Please rank the top 6 of the following that you feel best describe you, making #1 the highest, and so on.

Please fill this out independently, then share with a parent or older sibling. Encourage them to fill one out as well.

_____ 1. I like to organize ideas, time, things and people for more effective results. I like to plan and administer programs that will be of benefit to others. I can delegate important responsibilities to other people. I am able to set goals and objectives, and then make plans to reach them. Administration

_____ 2. (A) - I receive much joy from working with my hands on various arts and crafts. I find that my skills in building and/or repairing objects benefit others. (B) - I enjoy the work necessary for gardening, landscaping, and other projects. I find joy in having a beautiful lawn, shrubs, and flowers that are properly placed and maintained. Craftsmanship

_____ 3. I like and feel comfortable sharing with others how God has changed my life. It is easy for me to talk to other people about life and/or spiritual matters. Evangelism

_____ 4. I am able to share words of encouragement with those who are struggling in life. When important decisions need to be made, I sense a confidence in God's guidance. If one of my friends is faced with a problem, I try to help him sort out what God's will is for him. I often share words of comfort, cheer, or encouragement with others. Exhortation

_____ 5. I am able to provide food and/or lodging graciously and willingly to people who are in need. When people visit me at home, I try to make them feel welcome. Hospitality

_____ 6. When I am asked to pray for others, I feel confident that my prayers will be heard. I take prayer requests seriously. I regard prayer as my most important spiritual exercise. Intercession

_____ 7. I enjoy doing things to comfort people during sickness or times of problems and/or anxiety. I enjoy helping and working with those who seem to be neglected, and with those less fortunate than I. My service to others does not depend on receiving a Thank You. Mercy

_____ 8. When I am involved in a musical activity, I feel a great sense of joy. I would enjoy being in a music presentation. In the area of music, I enjoy performing alone, or in a group. I enjoy using my musical talents for the appreciation of my friends and to the glory of God. Music

_____ 9. I appreciate being called on to do things for other people. When other people ask me to lend a helping hand, I feel special. I respond cheerfully when asked to do a job, even if it seems menial. I prefer following directions to being the person in charge. Service

_____ 10. I enjoy relating to a group of people, sharing personally in their successes and failures. I feel comfortable in leading a small group in Bible study. I enjoy being in a small group of people and showing care and concern for them. **Shepherding**

_____ 11. I feel that I can communicate Biblical truths. I find it rewarding to teach people more about the Lord, and to help others to understand Scriptures. I enjoy teaching children or adults about God's love. **Teaching**

_____ 12. When I use my ability to write, I hope others will learn and grow from it. I find pleasure in composing and writing paragraphs and stories for others. I am able to put my thoughts and ideas into positive, written form so as to benefit those who read them. **Writing**

_____ 13. I trust God to guide me even when I try the impossible. I can quickly sense if an idea is right or wrong based on the truth of God's Word or the error of man's thinking. I often seek the motives of a person and look beneath their words. **Discernment**

_____ 14. I find myself willingly providing time and energy so that projects and emergency needs get accomplished. I enjoy working with others and doing tasks which free others for different ministries. If people are facing a crisis, I enjoy assisting them. **Helping**

_____ 15. I find real joy in contributing generously for the Lord's work. At a time of crisis, when financial needs are required, I accept the opportunity to contribute. I look forward to giving more to the Lord as He has blessed me. **Giving**

_____ 16. I look forward to the challenge of reading and studying a difficult book of the Bible. I enjoy studies which examine the hard teachings of the Bible. I have been a successful student during my education career. **Knowledge**

_____ 17. I find great satisfaction in having others follow me in performing a task. When working in a group, I am looked upon for guidance and direction. People seem to enjoy following me in doing important tasks. **Leadership**

DISCUSS THE RESULTS WITH A PARENT & ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

- What surprised you on this exercise?
- Anything that you were really good at, that you never thought about before?
- What were some of your strongest ones? Weakest? Share.
- Are there gifts that you have that you are not using? Why?
- How can you use your spiritual gifts in your daily life? To serve others? To serve God?