



Presents



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Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences

We are diving into our SHAPE by determining our Spiritual Gifts. If you haven't already done so, take the time to complete the Spiritual Gifts Test online. We will be looking at the passage found in **1 Corinthians 12:1-11** this week. Take time now to read the entire passage. reminded of concerning Spiritual Gifts from the

Take the Spiritual Gifts Test:

Use your mobile device to scan the QR code below, or if viewing online click on <http://giftstest.com>, and click on "Take The Test".



Once you have taken the Spiritual Gifts Test, write down or take note of your top five gifts

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Key Verse: But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills. 1 Corinthians 12:11 NLT

Definition: Spiritual Gift, n. A spiritual gift is a God-given special ability given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at the point of conversion, and is meant to share God's love and strengthen the body of Christ.

God shaped you uniquely, therefore the way you use a spiritual gift will be different than the way someone else who has the same gift as you use his or hers. It is important not to compare yourself to others unfairly, but to use your gifts for others, and to encourage others to discover and realize their gifts.

Consider the following scriptures:

- A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church. 1 Corinthians 12:7NLT
- ...each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. 1 Corinthians 7:7b TNIV

Consider a gift you have given to someone special, and how much thought and consideration you put into it. How well do you think God knows you, and how does His knowing you determining the gift(s) He has given you?

My Spiritual Gifts:

So, you have taken the Spiritual Gifts Test, and have your results. God has given these gifts to you. Gifts are intended by the Giver to be utilized by the recipient for things the Giver desires. You will discover after employing your spiritual gifts that you not only enjoy using them, but life seems to make more sense when they are in use by you.

Spiritual gifts are not positions. For instance, one of your test results might be “pastor/shepherd”. Does this mean you are called to become a pastor? Maybe. Maybe not. Your gift might be to shepherd a homeless couple through in a transition into security and stability. You may have the gift of hospitality or helps. Does this mean you are to be spokesperson for the food pantry or ushers? Positions are opportunities to try out your spiritual gifts, and for God to work in and through your mind, hands and heart to serve others.

The big question involves, not what do I get out of my spiritual gifts; but rather, how can I best serve God and others using my spiritual gifts?

Consider: If you are not currently involved in serving, where do you think you could begin? Write down the first idea that comes to mind: _____

The Love Factor: What is the motivation behind using spiritual gifts? We are pretty familiar with the following verse: “For God so loved the world that He gave....”(John 3:16). God has not called or commanded us to give up our first-born child. He has called us, however, to present ourselves in His image and likeness. Remember, “we are God’s masterpiece...”: that is a piece of the Master (Ephesians 2:10). We are meant to use spiritual gifts for others. In other words, because God loves the world, we are to use His special abilities to touch, heal, feed, support, lead, and love others on behalf of His kingdom.

Consider: What are some ways to use your spiritual gifts to benefit those in your group? How can you serve one another?

Wrapping It Up:

It is important to identify, define and understand the gifts you have been given. No giver of gifts wants to find out their gift was returned or worse, damaged. God wants you to open the package containing your spiritual gifts, and begin to use them. He receives pleasure in seeing you fulfilled by using your gifts in the way He has intended.

Reference:

Rees, E. (2006). *S.H.A.P.E.: Finding & fulfilling your unique purpose for life: Small group study guide*. Lake Forest, CA. Purpose Driven