How are you designed to serve?

Spiritual gifts inventory

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us" (Romans 12:4-5).

Spiritual gifts are abilities God gives us through the Holy Spirit so we can make our unique contributions, working together for the common good. Spiritual gifts describe how we are motivated, what draws our attention, and where we see the bigger picture of God's work in the world. Our gifts are also where others see God through us. When we use our gifts, we inspire others to do the same. We may never know what God does with the mustard seeds of our words and actions.

How is God calling you into ministry at this moment in your life? Take the brief inventory below to find out. Your gifts can be used anywhere — church, home, community, work, school — for official programs or for spur-of-the-moment interactions.

On the attached score sheet, make a check mark next to the question number for the statements that best describe you (in any context, not just church). There are no right or wrong answers, and all gifts are of equal value, so answer honestly according to what is true for you.

1. I can take responsibility for arranging the activities, people, and resources needed to accomplish a goal.
2. I often praise others.
3. I rely on God no matter what.
4. I am so thankful for God's many blessings that I happily share my resources to support God's work.
5. I can gather information from many sources and see the connections among them.
6. Others have told me when I am the leader they know they will enjoy working on a project.
7. I am moved to help those in need in direct, practical ways.
8. I am able to do detail work so leaders can focus on their main job.

9. Others have told me that their faith really grew from being part of a Sunday School, youth, or adult group I led.
10. I enjoy sorting through complex issues, discovering new insights that lead to fresh solutions.
11. Once the idea has been set for a project or event, I enjoy making all the necessary arrangements for it.
12. I always see the good in people that others do not see at first.
13. I always trust that God is active in our lives even when I can't see it.
14. I give freely of my time, money, abilities and/or self without thought of reward.
15. I am interested in studying lots of different subjects and love learning new things.
16. I can remain calm and continue to listen when others are anxious or angry. I can stay focused on goals while caring about — but not reacting to — the emotions of others.
17. I enjoy meeting and getting to know people who are disabled, poor, shut-in, ill, etc.
18. Others have told me they can count on me to help with practical, necessary jobs.
19. I enjoy leading adult study groups or working with children or youth groups.
20. I am drawn to Christ's life and teachings, and can apply them to present circumstances.
21. I enjoy working with others to plan who will do what by when so that the job we are working on gets done effectively and happily.
22. I have been able to help people find new directions for their lives.
23. I have experienced God's faithfulness in surprising and powerful ways.
24. Even when money or time is tight, I share generously.
25. I enjoy doing background research and organizing it in a helpful way.
26. I am self-confident and able to state my core values. I can easily help a group to clarify and stay focused on its vision, values and goals, even in the midst of heated conflict.
27. When I see people hurting or in need, I will personally do something to help.
28. I enjoy working in the background to support others who are leading and organizing.
29. Others have told me that I can clearly present information or ideas to groups.
30. Others have told me I have helped them solve a complex problem by shedding new light on their situation.

Inventory based on the most commonly held spiritual gifts, described in Romans 12:4-8, Ephesians 4:11-13, and 1 Corinthians 12:4-10. When we use our gifts — not just our skills — we may be tired, but we will also have a sense of satisfaction and contentment. We enjoy what we are doing and get positive responses from other people.

Spiritual gifts inventory results

Everyone has gifts! Each of us is “fearfully and wonderfully made”(Psalm 139:14).

Scoring instructions: make a check mark next to the numbers below that match the statements on the attached inventory that best describe you. Add up each line going across and record the number of checks in the box under “Total.” The top three are your strongest spiritual gifts. In the event of a tie, choose the gift you feel is most accurate for you. Definitions on the next page.

			Total	**Gift**
1	11	21		A. Administration
2	12	22		B. Encouragement
3	13	23		C. Faith
4	14	24		D. Generosity
5	15	25		E. Knowing
6	16	26		F. Leadership
7	17	27		G. Mercy
8	18	28		H. Serving
9	19	29		I. Teaching
10	20	30		J. Wisdom

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit … To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:4, 7).

Spiritual gifts definitions

A. **Administration:** the ability to see the specific actions needed to achieve goals, and to organize information, resources and people to work effectively to accomplish those goals.
B. **Encouragement:** the ability to inspire, admonish, hearten and support others so that they are strengthened in resolve, faith and spirit.
C. **Faith:** the ability to have unwavering confidence in God's faithfulness regardless of present circumstances.
D. **Generosity:** the ability to give resources freely and with joy to further God's causes.
E. **Knowing:** the ability to discover, organize, synthesize, clarify, and analyze information and ideas for the health of the church.
F. **Leadership:** the ability to build relationships of commitment to common goals; constructive sharing of visions, values, ideas and feelings; and accurate assessment of actual realities.
G. **Mercy:** the ability to instinctively and compassionately respond to the suffering of others with practical deeds that embody Christ's love.
H. **Serving:** the ability to see concrete, practical work that needs to be done to support leaders or for programs to function and volunteer to do it.
I. **Teaching:** the ability to communicate factual, psychological, moral, or spiritual truths, ideas, or theories that enable others to learn and contribute to the spiritual health of individuals and the church.
J. **Wisdom:** the ability to apply existing knowledge in practical, novel and insightful ways to complex, difficult or paradoxical situations.

Gifts can be used in myriad ways to praise God and do God's work, e.g., writing, sewing, singing, repairing, drawing, cooking, speaking, praying, caregiving, driving, accounting, gardening, building, cleaning, organizing, listening, etc.

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