

HIGH IMPACT LIVING
SECTION 1: SPIRITUAL GIFTS & PASSION 101

Spiritual Gifts: The Basics

This section will answer the questions, "What is a spiritual gift?" and "How do my natural talents differ from my spiritual gifts?"

DEFINITION

A spiritual gift is a God-given ability that you are to use to _____ God and _____ others.

NATURAL TALENTS VS. SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A spiritual gift is not the same thing as a natural talent:

	<u>Natural Talents</u>	<u>Spiritual Gifts</u>
Source	God-given and inherited through parents	God-given and independent from parents
Present	From birth and given to all human beings	From conversion and given to all Christians
Purpose	To benefit mankind primarily on a natural level	To glorify God and benefit mankind on a natural and spiritual level
Examples	Musically inclined, Intelligence	Mercy, Teaching, Shepherding

A Biblical Perspective on Spiritual Gifts

There are four key passages in the New Testament that describe spiritual gifts:

- Romans 12:3-8
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-31
- Ephesians 4:7-16
- 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of these passages contains a partial list of spiritual gifts. From these Scriptures we can learn nine key things about spiritual gifts and our role in the Body of Christ.

1. Every Christian is a _____ of Christ's Body.

Romans 12:5

In Christ we who are many form one body.

2. The _____ has given every Christian at least _____ spiritual gift.

1 Corinthians 12:11

All these [spiritual gifts] are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines.

3. Every member of the Bouy has a different _____ based on his or her gift.

1 Corinthians 12:14-20

Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

4. Every member plays an _____ role; no gift or role is _____ than any other.

1 Corinthians 12:18, 21-23

But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be . . . The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor.

5. Every member needs to use his or her spiritual gift for the Body to _____ properly.

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

There should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

6. No one receives _____ the gifts; no _____ gift is given to everyone.

1 Corinthians 12:27-30

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

7. I am to use the gifts God has given me to _____ God and _____ others.

1 Peter 4:10-11

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms . . . so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

8. The more you use your spiritual gifts the better they will be _____.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

9. The use of my spiritual gifts must be rooted in _____.

1 Corinthians 13:1,3

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal . . . If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

← **KEY PRINCIPLE:**

Spiritual gifts answer the what question - what am I to do to have an impact on the world for Jesus Christ?

My specific spiritual gift mix equips me to do a certain task. However, I still need to know where to serve.

e.g., I might have the spiritual gift of **teaching** but I might not be passionate about teaching children. Therefore, if I teach Treasure Island 1st graders, I probably won't like my position. I need to use my gift where I am passionate.

A Biblical Perspective on Passion

DEFINITION

Passion is a God-given desire that compels you to make an impact in a particular ministry.

Galatians 1:15-16

But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not consult any man.

Peter preached to the Jews, Paul focused on the Gentiles (ref. Galatians 2:8)

AREAS OF PASSION

Each person is passionate about a certain people and/or cause:

- People group (e.g., children, elderly, impoverished)
- Cause/issue (e.g., domestic violence, sports, racism)

← **KEY PRINCIPLE:**

Passion answers the where question - where I am to serve to impact God's Kingdom?

✕ EXERCISE 1A: SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT

Directions:

1. Respond to each question on the *Spiritual Gifts Assessment* (found on the next few pages) according to the following scale:

0 = Not at All / Never True

1 = Sometimes / True Once in a While

2 = Most of the Time / Usually True

3 = Consistently / Definitely True

2. Tear off page 17 which contains the Tally Table. As you read each statement write your numerical response (0, 1, 2, or 3) in the corresponding box on the Tally Table.

3. IMPORTANT: Answer according to who you ARE, not who you would like to be, or think you ought to be.

4. Don't labor over each question. Just read it and answer it. Record the first number that pops into your mind.

5. PRAY before and during the process of taking the assessment. Let God speak to you about this. After all, they're *His* gifts. ☺

6. After you have answered all 114 questions, follow the directions under the Tally Table.

Note: Each page of the Spiritual Gifts Assessment corresponds to one row of the Tally Table. Therefore, when you begin a new row on the Tally Table you should begin a new page of the Assessment. Keep this in mind so you do not end up putting your numerical answers in the wrong boxes.

1. I am thorough in the things that I do.
2. I want to start new churches to reach people who don't know Jesus.
3. I am able to accurately "read" people or situations based on little information.
4. I make sure to tell someone "good job" if he or she did something well.
5. When I share the Gospel message with unbelievers, they accept Jesus as their personal Savior.
6. I believe with all my heart that "With God all things are possible."
7. I have prayerfully determined an amount of money to give to Kensington and do so faithfully, even when the economy is bad.
8. God has used me as his instrument to instantaneously cure a sick or suffering person.
9. I find something that needs to get done and do it without being asked.
10. When someone speaks in tongues (i.e., an unknown language), God gives me an interpretation to share with my fellow Christians.
11. The Holy Spirit supernaturally gives me information that just "pops" into my head.
12. I get frustrated when no one is in charge.
13. I have great compassion for those who are hurting.
14. I have spoken God's truth and performed a miracle to authenticate my message.
15. If a person is engaged in a sinful behavior I point out the future consequences if he or she continues sinning and does not repent.
16. I have compassion for Christians caught in the snare of sin and want to protect them from Satan's temptations.
17. People have told me that I am effective at explaining biblical truth.
18. When I pray to God I use a special "prayer language" that is not English.
19. I suggest ways to apply biblical truth in different situations and Christians consider my advice to be helpful.

Don't forget to be praying! ☺

20. When a team is planning an event or program I anticipate potential problems that may arise.
21. When I launch a ministry or church, I leave it in the capable hands of others and go on to start something new.
22. I am able to sense the presence of evil in a person or situation.
23. I enjoy cheering up a person when he or she is "down in the dumps".
24. My heart breaks when I think of people spending an eternity without God.
25. I believe God will use me to do great things to advance His Kingdom.
26. I am thankful to give my finances to God since He gave me everything in the first place.
27. People are supernaturally healed by God as a result of my prayers.
28. I see spiritual significance in doing the routine tasks in ministry.
29. God's name is glorified when He uses me to interpret the message of someone speaking in tongues.
30. When reading and studying the Bible I discover important truths.
31. I have the natural ability to influence others.
32. I "do good anyway" and help people even when they do not deserve it.
33. God has performed supernatural wonders and signs through me.
34. I confront others with sinful patterns in their lives, even if they are not receptive to what I have to say.
35. Caring for others comes naturally to me.
36. I enjoy explaining things like theology or the Bible to people so they grow in their relationship with God.
37. When I speak in tongues, it strengthens my fellow Christians.
38. I see clear solutions to complex problems.

39. If someone has an idea I am able to think of the steps needed to turn that vision into a reality.
40. Wherever God wants to send me, I am willing to go.
41. I easily distinguish right from wrong in different situations.
42. When others are discouraged I come alongside them and use my words to reassure them.
43. I am able to communicate the gospel to others in a clear and effective manner.
44. I find it easy to trust God in situations when things do not look good from a human perspective.
45. I do not give God the "leftovers" of my money; I give Him my "first fruits."
46. God has used me in a supernatural way to heal someone emotionally, spiritually, or physically.
47. I volunteer my time doing the everyday tasks that are not very glamorous but need to get done.
48. I have heard a Christian speak in tongues and been able to supernaturally translate it into English.
49. Fellow Christians seek my perspective in an area of the Bible or theology.
50. I motivate others to perform to the best of their ability.
51. I can see past physical handicaps and realize that a person with special needs matters to God.
52. Things I have done by the power of God have no natural explanation.
53. I boldly point out societal trends or teachings that contradict biblical principles.
54. I have genuine concern for the well-being of my fellow Christians.
55. When a pastor is giving a sermon I think of ways he could better communicate a certain point in his message.
56. Other Christians with the gift of "interpretation" have deciphered my messages from the Lord.
57. Fellow Christians ask my advice about their emotional or spiritual problems.

58. I enjoy organizing ideas, people, and programs.
59. I am culturally sensitive both within my own country and abroad.
60. I can determine whether a person's motives are pure or impure.
61. If a person is taking a step of faith I cheer him or her on.
62. Depending on the need of the unbeliever I adapt my gospel presentation to show how Jesus meets that particular need.
63. I challenge others to have a "bigger" view of God; that He is "bigger" than whatever struggles they are going through.
64. I give above and beyond Kensington's suggested "10/10/80" plan; giving more than 10% of my income to the Kingdom of God.
65. I have used supernatural healings to authenticate God's message to unbelievers.
66. I am there to "lend a helping hand" in whatever needs to be done.
67. When I interpret a message in tongues, the church is strengthened as a result.
68. I have a regimented plan for reading and studying the Bible.
69. I am able to cast a vision to others and they jump on board.
70. I enjoy visiting the lonely and forgotten people in homeless shelters and prisons.
71. God's name is glorified when he uses me to perform supernatural acts.
72. I have spoken truth to people resulting in their strengthening, encouragement, and comfort.
73. I enjoy giving guidance and direction to a small group of Christians.
74. I can present a complex biblical or theological truth in a way that makes it easy to grasp.
75. God has given me messages to communicate to his people and I have done so in a language unknown to me.
76. When there is conflict or confusion in a situation, I am able to offer sound advice.

Keep on praying! ☺

77. I think of better, more efficient ways to do things.
78. I can see myself leaving my "home church" and serving God in another city, state, or country.
79. People describe me as perceptive.
80. I motivate others with my words to grow in their relationship with God.
81. When talking to unbelievers I try to steer the conversation so we talk about spiritual things.
82. When God leads me in a specific direction, I move forward even if other Christians or nonbelievers oppose me.
83. When there is a financial need somewhere in God's Kingdom I am the first one in line with my checkbook.
84. I find great joy in praying for the sick because God uses my prayers to supernaturally heal people.
85. Doing things "behind the scenes" and not receiving praise is fine with me.
86. When I interpret a message spoken in tongues my words are prophetic in nature.
87. When I think about other people, God supernaturally reveals something about them that I did not know before.
88. I set goals and then motivate and inspire people to work together to accomplish these goals for God's glory.
89. I enjoy bringing hope to people who have no hope.
90. I believe miraculous acts go hand in hand with proclaiming the gospel.
91. I seem to share truth with people at the exact time they need to hear it.
92. I am "there" for people who need someone to talk with.
93. I get pumped up when I get the chance to explain a biblical concept to someone.
94. Speaking in tongues has made me more intimate with God.
95. If there are multiple ways to attack a problem I can discern which is the best approach to take.

96. I clarify goals and create strategies to accomplish them.
97. I would like to take a lead role in starting a new church.
98. I recognize teaching or preaching that strays from biblical truth.
99. If a person is going through a time of trial, I confirm that God is in control and He will work it out for good.
100. Others may plant the seeds but I am a harvester that leads people to Christ.
101. I am confident that God is present and active in my daily life.
102. If I see someone in need I help him or her out in whatever way possible.
103. God's name is glorified when He uses me to supernaturally heal others.
104. I do not have a lot of unique talents but I want God to use me in whatever way possible.
105. I am able to understand people when they speak in tongues.
106. When I share insights God has given me about a particular Bible passage, my fellow Christians are strengthened.
107. When I join a group I naturally take charge.
108. I patiently support people going through painful or difficult life experiences and desire to help them get through it.
109. Others can testify that I have been God's instrument in bringing supernatural change in their lives.
110. I have the ability to sense what God wants to communicate to people at a particular time or situation.
111. I enjoy nurturing others toward full devotion to Jesus Christ.
112. I spend time studying the Bible because I understand the awesome responsibility a person has in accurately communicating God's Word.
113. God's name is glorified when I speak in tongues.
114. I am able to apply my knowledge in practical and helpful ways.

TALLY TABLE

As you read each question record your numerical response (0, 1, 2, or 3) in the corresponding box on the Tally Table. Use the following scale:

- 0 = Not at All / Never True
- 1 = Sometimes / True Once in a While
- 2 = Most of the Time / Usually True
- 3 = Consistently / Definitely True

Tally Table

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

Directions:

Once you have recorded a response to all 114 questions . . .

1. Add the numbers in each column (A-S) and put the total score for each column in the shaded box immediately above each letter.
2. Now complete the table on page 17. Here's how you'll do that . . .
 - a. Find your top 3 totals from the Tally Table and list these *numbers* in the left hand column of the table in the following order: highest score, 2nd highest, 3rd highest.
 - b. Write down the corresponding *letter* to each of the three numbers in the middle column of the table.
 - c. Look at the Spiritual Gifts Key. Find the *gift* associated with your 3 letters. Write down the spiritual gift in the right hand column.

MY TOP 3 GIFTS

Top 3 Point Totals	Corresponding Column Letter (A - S)	Corresponding Spiritual Gift (see KEY below)
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		

Spiritual Gifts Key

A = Administration	B = Apostleship	C = Discernment	D = Encouragement
E = Evangelism	F = Faith	G = Giving	H = Healing
I = Helps	J = Interpretation (of Tongues)	K = Knowledge	
L = Leadership	M = Mercy	N = Miracles	O = Prophecy
P = Shepherding	Q = Teaching	R = Tongues	S = Wisdom

Directions:

Once you have completed the table and identified your top 3 spiritual gifts . . .

1. Turn to the "Spiritual Gifts: The Definitions" page (p.18). Spend a few minutes reading the descriptions of your top 3 spiritual gifts.
2. Once you have read through your top 3 spiritual gifts, turn to pages 21-22 and take the Passion Assessment.