The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Gifts for **SHEPHERDING**.

*Administration, Apostle, Leadership, Pastoring, Teaching*

Those with the gifts of shepherding will find themselves drawn to places of visible leadership where they can be a person of influence.

**Administration** – (1 Cor 12.28, Acts 6.2–4, Ex 18.13–27) The gift to clearly understand the present and future goals of the church and to plan workable and manageable ways to reach these goals.

**Apostle** – (1 Cor 12.28–29, Eph 1.1, 4.11, Acts 14.21–23) The gift to inspire and develop the church and people of God through the proclamation and teaching of God’s word and truth.

**Leadership** – (Romans 12.8, 1 Timothy 4.12, Heb 13.7) The gift to set goals from God and then lead others to work together to carry out these goals for the glory of God.

**Pastoring** – (Eph 4.11–12, 1 Peter 5.1–4, Jer 23.4, Heb 13.17, 1 Tim 3.2, Jn 10.11) The gift to guide, oversee, shepherd and spiritually build-up a specific group of believers in matters concerning Christ and the church.

**Teaching** – (Eph 4.11–12, 1 Cor 12.29, Ro 12.7, Acts 11.25–26, 13.1, 15.35, John 7.16) The gift to communicate God’s word to God’s people in order that they might understand spiritual truths and insights and thus learn, grow, and mature in Jesus Christ.
The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Gifts for SERVING.
Craftsmanship, Giving, Helping, Hospitality, Serving

Those with the gifts of serving will find themselves drawn to places where they can meet the needs of others in meaningful and life giving ways.

Craftsmanship – (Exodus 28.3-4, 31.1-5, Acts 18.3, 2 Kings 12.12) The gift to use hands, minds and skill to build up the Kingdom through artistic and creative means for the glory and honor of God.

Giving – (Romans 12.6,8, Mark 12.43–44, 2 Cor 8.2–3, 9.7) The gift to offer material blessings with exceptional willingness, cheerfulness and generosity to the mission of the Church and people in need.

Helping – (1 Cor 12.28, Acts 6.2–4, Ps 40.17, Heb 13.6, 1 Tim 5.10) The gift to willingly assist others by enabling them to do their Kingdom tasks more effectively and to help bear the burdens of others.

Hospitality – (1 Peter 4.9–10, 1 Tim 3.2, 5.10, Rom 12.13, Titus 1.8) The gift to offer food, lodging or fellowship to people in a cheerful manner either in their homes, work, school or church.

Serving – (Romans 12.7, Eph 3.7, 4.12, 6.7, Galatians 6.2, Phil 2.7, Deut 10.12) The gift to serve God and the Church with great joy, blessing, and selflessness. One who desires to meet physical, spiritual & emotional needs of others.
The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Gifts for **STRENGTHENING**.

*Encouragement, Healing, Mercy, Music, Prophecy*

Those with the gifts of strengthening will find themselves drawn to places where they can build deep relationships with individuals and express God’s love through that relationship.

**Encouragement** – (Romans 12.8, Acts 4.36, 11.23–24, 1 Thess 4.18) The gift to offer words and actions of encouragement to others in need of comfort, counsel and care.

**Healing** – (1 Cor 12.9,30, Matthew 10.1, Luke 4.40, Acts 3.6–9) The gift by which the Holy Spirit enables certain individuals to restore health to those who are sick.

**Mercy** –(Romans 12.8, Deut 4.31, Matthew 5.7, Titus 3.5, Luke 6.36) The gift of showing kindness and compassion in the name of Jesus to those who suffer, and to meet the needs of those who hurt.

**Music** – (1 Cor 14.15,26, Mark 14.26, Eph 5.19, 1 Chronicles 9.33, James 5.13) The gift of bringing praise to God and leading the body of Christ in worship through various forms of music, singing, instruments and choirs.

**Prophecy** – (1 Cor 12.10, 29, 14.1–3, 30–33, Eph 4.11–12, Joel 2.28, Rom 12.6) The gift to “speak forth” and interpret messages from God regarding future events, revelations or truths pertaining to a given situation or everyday life.
The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Gifts for **SALVATION**.

_Evangelism, Faith, Miracles, Missions, Tongues_

Those with the gifts of salvation will find themselves easily able to demonstrate God’s presence to others and share their faith with passion and intensity.

**Evangelism** – (Eph 4.11–12, 2 Timothy 4.5, Acts 21.8) The gift to share the Gospel with unbelievers with the hope that the unbeliever will become a disciple of Jesus Christ. To bring good tidings of salvation.

**Faith** – (1 Cor 12.9, Heb 11.1,6, Philippians 3.9, Luke 17.5, Romans 10.17) The gift to believe with extraordinary confidence in God’s promises, power and presence in order to honor God, inspire others, and build up the church.

**Miracles** – (1 Cor 12.10, John 20.30–31, Acts 19.11, Psalm 77.14, Acts 2.22) The gift of performing supernatural acts through the power of the Holy Spirit to further the Kingdom, give glory to God, and to convert unbelievers.

**Missions** – (Matt 28.18–20, Acts 1.8, 22.21, 1 Cor 9.19–23, Mark 13.10, 16.15) The gift of being ‘sent forth’ to minister in another culture, people group or nation, while utilizing a wide range of spiritual gifts.

The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Gifts for **SPIRITUAL INSIGHT**.

*Discernment, Interpretation of Tongues, Knowledge, Prayer, Wisdom*

Those with the gifts of spiritual insight will connect with God in a way that allows them to clearly share God’s desires.

**Discernment** – (1 John 4.1, 1 Kings 3.9, Ro 12.2, 1 Cor 2.14, Heb 5.14, Acts 5.3–6) The gift to know and to test whether something is spiritually good or evil, from God or from Satan.

**Interpretation of Tongues** – (1 Cor 12.10–11, 30, 14.5) The gift of understanding and interpreting that which is spoken in a tongue, a spirit language or a foreign language.

**Knowledge** – (1 Cor 12.8, Eph 3.18–19, John 7.16–17, 17.3) The gift to understand great truths about God’s word and to make them relevant to specific situations. Such as truth that is unknown by merely natural means.

**Prayer** – (1 Thess 3.10–13, 5.17, 1 Tim 2.1–2, 5.5, Luke 18.1, Jn 16.24, Eph 6.18) The gift to pray (intercede) for extended periods of time and regularity with great positive effects and results for building up the Kingdom.

**Wisdom** – (1 Cor 12.8, James 3.13–18, Proverbs 3.13, Romans 11.33, 2 Tim 3.15) The gift to offer good advice, solid counsel, and special insight as it relates to God’s purpose and will and work as it pertains in living life and making disciples.
The 5 Spiritual Gift Categories

Identification of Spiritual Gifts

1. **It helps you determine God’s will for your vocation.** A knowledge of your gifts will provide a context for making career and ministry decisions regarding what not to attempt as well as what to enter into with confidence.

2. **Mobilizes the entire church for mission.** Since a small percentage of the church consists of clergy and more than ninety percent of the church is laity, the church obviously must equip and encourage every Christian to minister in his or her area of influence, home, school or work place.

3. **Assists you in setting priorities for study, growth, and ministry.** Since each of us has a limited amount of time to develop our potential, it seems clear that we should develop ourselves in the areas of our spiritual gifts.

4. **Gives each Christian a sense of dignity and self-worth.** Every Christian is an important part of the total church. There are no “second class” citizens in the Christian community because each person is a vitally important member of the body of Christ.

5. **Enables you to receive the gift ministries of others.** When Christians become more knowledgeable of their own spiritual gifts and those of other Christians, they can more easily function in harmony as the body of Christ, both giving and receiving ministries.

**Bibliography**

This material was originally arranged by Rev. Rusty Freeman, Director of Youth Ministries, Southwest Texas Conference of the UMC. Permission was given to edit and reuse the material.