

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

(example)

 <p>For each of the 23 gifts¹, circle each box that is true for you, add the numbers, and then enter the total in the white box.</p> <p>Have confidence! Remember Moses, even after seeing God work miracles through him, suggested God could do better by finding someone else.²</p>	1	2	3	4	6
	I'd like to explore this gift.	Folks are encouraging me to try / use this gift.	God is nudging me to use this gift.	My life is producing fruit with this gift.	Total

1. HOW CHURCHES BEGIN

APOSTLE

You sense God is sending you to plant new churches.³

- "We have received grace and apostleship ... to bring about the obedience of faith for Christ's name's sake among all the nations." (Romans 1:5)

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DECISION FOR CHRIST

You have the ability to tell others that your life belongs to Jesus.

- "No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit ." (I Cor. 12:3)

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FAITH

"You have an assurance of what others simply hope for, and the certainty that things exist before they are seen".⁴

- Jesus said, "Come". So, Peter stepped out onto the water, in the dark and in the middle of the lake, and walked from the boat. (Matthew 14:25-31)

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2. COMMUNICATING A FRESH WORD / VISION FROM GOD

PROPHECY

You occasionally proclaim a message or vision that you have received for the strengthening, encouraging, and / or comforting of others.⁵

- When Jesus' parents brought the infant Jesus to the temple, Anna, who was a prophetess, came up at that very moment and began speaking of Jesus to all who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem." (Luke 2:36-38)

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RECEIVING WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE

You suddenly know something that was not previously told to you.

- Jesus said to her: "That's a great answer in saying "I have not husband", for you have had five husbands; and the man you are with now is not your husband." After this, she went and told her friends, "Come meet someone who told me everything I have ever done." (John 4:1-42)

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¹ The primary lists are found in Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4.

² Exodus 3:1-4:13.

³ Acts 13:1-3.

⁴ Hebrews 11:1.

⁵ I Corinthians 14:3.

RECEIVING WORDS OF WISDOM

You suddenly are aware of what needs to be done.

- Pharaoh called Joseph from prison and told Joseph his dream. Joseph interpreted the dream, and immediately told Pharaoh how to save Egypt: and Pharaoh new this came from the Holy Spirit. (Genesis 41:1-39)

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3. GROWING IN CHRIST**PASTOR**

You're successful in guiding & caring for those in the church, nurturing them in the faith, finding wanderers, keeping them safe and together.⁶

- "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you to be those who look over them: to shepherd the church of God which Jesus purchased with his own blood." (Acts 20:28)

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TEACHER

You can present the truths and lifestyle of faith, in such an accurate and entertaining way, that people's lives are changed for the better.⁷

- "The whole crowd was spellbound by Jesus' teaching." (Mark 11:18)
- "What you have heard from me ... entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well." (II Timothy 2:2)

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4. CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE**ARTIST**

You excel in creating what is needed: in a captivating, evocative, and beautiful / aesthetic form.

- For the purpose of building the place of worship in the desert, God said, "I have filled Bezalel with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding, with knowledge and with all kinds of skills - to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of crafts." (Exodus 31:1-5)

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MUSICIAN

You can provide & lead music that lifts people's spirits to God, and helps them feel within themselves the assurance of God's love and truths.⁸

- "The Lord has put a new song in my mouth, a song to praise to our God. Many will see and honor, and put their trust in the Lord." (Psalm 40:3)

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SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Sometimes you speak, sing, pray in a language you haven't learned, and may not understand.⁹

- The Holy Spirit fell on those hearing the Gospel for the very first time: and they began speaking in tongues, and praising God. (Acts 10:27-47)

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⁶ Ezekiel 34:1-6; John 10:1-15, 21:15-17.

⁷ Henrietta Mears (Discipled 6,500/week; including founders of "Campus Crusade", "Navigators", and "Young Life").

⁸ John 4:23-24; Ephesians 5:18-20; Colossians 3:16; I Peter 2:9.

⁹ I Corinthians 14:2-17.

INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

You are able to understand languages that you haven't learned.¹⁰

- The Holy Spirit fell on those hearing the Gospel for the very first time: and they began speaking in tongues, and magnifying God. (Acts 10:23-47)

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5. EXTENDING GOD'S LOVE TO OTHERS**ADMINISTRATOR (FACILITATOR)**

Like those steering the ships of Paul's day on the Mediterranean Sea: you are able to mediate between the winds of opportunity and waves of personality, so as to steer the church in the direction it's chosen to go.¹¹

- The church had two competing views on what was necessary to be a Christian. After hearing people's stories, and much discussion, James said, "I have reached the decision that we should ..." This was pleasing to the whole church, and led to the Gentiles being included. (Acts 15:1-22)

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ENCOURAGEMENT

You are able to bring comfort people while successfully inviting them to hang in there, try something new, or give it a go again.

- When Paul, who had viciously persecuted Christians, tried to join the church in Jerusalem, they were afraid of him. They found it hard to believe Paul was now a disciple of Jesus. So, Barnabas brought him to the Apostles, leading to Paul became a key part of the church. (Acts 9:26-28)

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DIFFERENTIATION OF SPIRITS

You are able to discern whether an influencing spirit is from God, and what type of spirit it is.

- "... Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light." (II Corinthians 11:14)
- The disciples asked Jesus why they couldn't cast the evil spirit out. Jesus said, this kind is only driven out by prayer and fasting. (Mark 9:25-39)

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EVANGELIST

You're able to share the Gospel in a way that people can freely say "Yes!"

- The Spirit said, "Go to that chariot." So, Philip ran up and said, "Do you understand what you're reading?" Invited into the chariot, Philip answered the man's questions. He then said, "What prevents me from being baptized?" Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The man said, "I believe!" And so, Philip baptized him. (Acts 8:29-39)

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HEALING

Through your prayers, words, & touch: God sometimes brings healing.

- "The man lay sick with a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to where the man was, prayed, laid his hands on him, and healed him." (Acts 28:8)

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¹⁰ I Corinthians 14.

¹¹ It is the image of the one at the ship's wheel (not the captain) in Acts 27.

GENEROSITY

You have the ability to open your heart and hands to others, and freely share what you have.

- The church was told through the prophet, Agabus, that there was going to be a famine. And so, the disciples sent relief to those dwelling in Judea, each according to their own ability." (Acts 11:27-30)

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HOSPITALITY

You are able to open your home & social context even to other's friends.

- Lydia said: "If you've found me faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my house." And her home became where the church met. (Acts 16)

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LEADING

You are able to set a successful direction for the group; and you are willing to enthusiastically go first: even if it means being hit first.

- Paul has a vision of a man saying "Come over to Macedonia and help us". Now after Paul saw the vision, Paul and the whole church-planting team immediately went to Macedonia. There, they started the church of which Lydia (who had the gift of hospitality) became a member. (Acts 16:6-15)

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MIRACLES

In response to the leading of God, you have been able to do things which otherwise would have had a very small probability of ever happening.

- Jesus told Peter to go, cast a line into the sea, and take the first fish: for in its' mouth, Peter would find the coin for the tax. So, Peter went, did as Jesus had directed, and found the coin in the fish's mouth. (Matthew 17:24-27)

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SERVING

You easily lay aside privileges/prestige of your position to "wait tables".

- Jesus got up from dinner, laid aside his garment, and wrapped a towel around his waist. Then taking a basin of water, he knelt down and washed the disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that he had wrapped around himself. (John 13:1-5)

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MERCY

You graciously stop what you are doing – even when it's inconvenient for you, and may actually be unpopular with the crowd – to help others.

- When the blind man heard that Jesus was walking by, he cried out: "Jesus ... have mercy on me." The crowd told the blind man to shut up. But Jesus stopped, had the man brought to him, and asked: "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus then healed the blind man's eyes. (Luke 18:35-43)

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The Spirit is like a movie projector, and we are the screen. The Holy Spirit decides when and what gifts to project in our lives. This suggests that the gifts manifested in our lives may change over time.

All the gifts are given to build up the church, and to glorify God. They are only effective in the context of love of God and others. In the community of faith, we are encouraged to use them in ways that are patient; kind; not envious, boastful, rude or self-seeking; keeps no record of wrongs; celebrates truth and not evil; always protects, trusts, trusts and perseveres." (1 Cor. 13)