



Spiritual Gifts Study Guide—March 13, 2016

Please take the Spiritual Gifts Survey before completing this Bible Study.

Whether this is the first time or the 10th time you have done a spiritual gifts survey or assessment, it is important to realize that over time your spiritual gifts may change, be added to, or may no longer be dominant depending on changes in your life and the needs of the church you are associated with. Pray that God will bring clarity and discernment as you participate in the current survey.

Review of the purpose of Spiritual Gifts:

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12, 18-20; Ephesians 4:11-15, and 1 Peter 4:10-11

1. For the common good of the body of Christ – the church
2. To prepare God's people for works of service
3. To build up the church – the believers
4. To bring Christians to unity in the faith
5. To bring each Christian to maturity in Christ
6. To bring praise and Glory to God

Some definitions:

A **SPIRITUAL GIFT** is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the body of Christ – the church. One may have more than one gift.

TALENTS are God-given, natural abilities you are born with. Both can be used to serve God. Neither should be used without surrendering them to the Holy Spirit, relying on His power and wisdom. You can be successful to a point, but you will not be successful for God's purposes without relying on the Holy Spirit.

Biblical principles for the use of Spiritual Gifts:

1. There should be no special treatment of individuals—we are all one 1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:28
2. The body contains many members and each one belongs and contributes to the proper functioning of the body 1 Corinthians 12:14-16
3. One member is not more important than another Romans 12:3-6
4. God puts us where we belong according to His own pleasure 1 Corinthians 12:18
5. We need one another, every believer must sense the importance and need of every other believer 1 Corinthians 12:21
6. No one is unimportant 1 Corinthians 12:22
7. Each member should have the same care for the other members 1 Corinthians 12:25-27
8. Not all members have the same gift(s) 1 Corinthians 12:28-31
9. The greatest gift is love 1 Corinthians 12:31, Ephesians 4:12-16, 1 Corinthians 13

Look at your survey – what are your 3 most dominant gifts?

What ministries at CCPC are you doing now? Are there any you are not gifted for? Do you need to make any changes to your ministry based on your re-evaluation? What opportunities would you like to help you further develop your gifts? (i.e. training sessions, classes to take, work with a mentor, etc.)

Look at the next 3 more dominant gifts:

How can you use them at CCPC? Which would you like to develop further or use at this time?

For those doing a spiritual gifts survey for the 1st time, or who still are not sure of your spiritual gifts:

1. Consider making a list and describe your accomplishments, things you enjoyed doing and did well: In childhood, at school, at home, at work, at church.
Some ideas: I took great photos, I ran a Kool-aid stand, I ran for office in school and sometimes won, I like to build things, etc.
2. Discover the motivating direction of your heart. I love to:
Design and develop, pioneer, organize, operate and maintain, serve and help, acquire and possess, excel, influence, perform, improve – make things better, repair, lead and be in charge, persevere – bring things to completion, follow the rules, prevail for right and oppose wrong.
3. What is your personality: extrovert or introvert; thinker or feeler; like routine or variety; self-controlled or self-expressive; cooperative or competitive. You can gage these as either/or, or a combination (i.e. sometimes I like routine, but at times I like more variety.)
4. Do you have any specialized abilities? Or training?
5. What have been your experiences?

Now relook at your survey and your answers to the above questions. Note your dominant gifts. See the definitions of the gifts below.

- What spiritual ministry do you think you are gifted for?
- Do you want more training or guidance to develop this gift?
- Where can you serve with this gift at CCPC?

If you want to discuss this with someone, one of the pastors would be glad to meet with you.

Spiritual Gift Definitions

1. Leadership: the special ability to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate these goals to others in such a way that they voluntarily work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God.
2. Administration: the special ability to understand clearly the immediate and long-range goals of a particular unit of the body of Christ and to devise and execute effective plans for the accomplishment of those goals.
3. Teaching: the special ability to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the Body and its members in such a way that others will learn by instructing, explaining or exposing Biblical truth.
4. Knowledge: the special ability to discover, accumulate, analyze and clarify information and ideas which are pertinent to the well-being of the Body.
5. Wisdom: the special ability to have insight into doctrinal truth and to how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs for making decisions or to choose courses of action within the body of Christ.
6. Prophecy: the special ability to communicate the mind of God imparted to a believer by the Holy Spirit to indicate the will of God in a given situation, to exhort, edify or console believers and to convince nonbelievers of God's truth.
7. Discernment: the special ability to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human or Satanic – differentiate between the Word of God proclaimed by a true believer, or false teaching by a deceiver or Satanic teaching.
8. Exhortation: the special ability to exhort others with an uplifting, cheerful call to worthwhile accomplishment, to encourage and counsel members in applying Scriptural truth to their needs.
9. Shepherding: the special ability of long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers.
10. Faith: the special ability to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for his work with unusual reliance on God.

11. Evangelism: the special ability to share the gospel with unbelievers in such a way that men and women become Jesus' disciples and responsible members of the Body of Christ.
12. Apostleship: the special ability to go forth as God's ambassador and carry His message with authority to establish new local churches and new works needed to enhance the spread of Christianity and to guide these works in their foundational stages.
13. Service/Helps: the special ability to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results. Helps is the special ability to invest the talents they have in the life and ministry of other members of the Body, thus enabling those others to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts.
14. Mercy: the special ability to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals who suffer and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering.
15. Giving: the special ability to contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness.
16. Hospitality: the special ability to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.