

Chapter 19

IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING YOUR GIFTS 3 ***SPIRITUAL GIFTS QUESTIONNAIRE AND DEFINITIONS***

The **Spiritual Gifts Questionnaire** is an exercise to help you begin to identify your individual spiritual gifts. It will work best for you if you are completely honest in your answers. Put the answer that you really feel and not what you think you should feel or what you think other people think you should feel or do. This exercise is for you, not for other people.

Here is how to do it:

- STEP I** Go through the list of 125 statements in the questionnaire. For each one, mark to what extent the statement is true of your life: MUCH **(3)** SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.
- STEP II** When you are finished, score the questionnaire by means of the Score Chart. You will find a pattern of strengths (indicated by high scores) as you evaluate your scores. This will help you identify gifts and strengths that are in your life now.
- STEP III** We will be teaching and giving practical information on the various spiritual gifts and how they can function and operate in your life.

SPECIAL NOTE: READ THIS CAREFULLY

This questionnaire is just a starting place in helping you to discover the spiritual gifts God has given you. Do not make the mistake of considering the results to be final and irrefutable. It may even be that a gift you actually have does not show strongly here. Use this tool as a helpful source of insight, but don't let its results control you.

Your Calling, Spiritual Gifts, and Ministry Potential are not limited to the giftings identified by this or any other Assessment Questionnaire. This is only a beginning and a guideline to help you get started.

As you grow and mature and as God's purpose for your life becomes progressively clearer, you may add to your "Tool Box" of giftings through desire and prayer, through revelation or prophecy, and through necessity and practical experience.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 1. I have proclaimed God's truth in a way that at times was confrontational and challenging to attitudes and traditions.
- ___ 2. I enjoy having the responsibility for the spiritual well being of a group of Christians.
- ___ 3. I feel I could enable persons to learn biblical truths in detail.
- ___ 4. I have applied biblical truth effectively in my own life.
- ___ 5. I have the ability to discover new truths for myself.
- ___ 6. I have verbally encouraged the wavering, the troubled, or the discouraged.
- ___ 7. I have clearly perceived the difference between truth and error.
- ___ 8. I desire to manage money well in order to give liberally to the Lord's work.
- ___ 9. I am willing to assist leaders in practical ways to relieve them for their essential job.
- ___ 10. I desire to work with those who have physical or mental problems, to alleviate their suffering.
- ___ 11. I have adapted easily in a culture different from mine.
- ___ 12. I have led others to a decision for salvation through faith in Christ.
- ___ 13. I feel I could provide food and/or lodging graciously to those in need.
- ___ 14. I have had confidence that God would keep His promises in spite of circumstantial evidence.
- ___ 15. I have a desire to persuade others to move toward achieving biblical objectives.
- ___ 16. I have been able to discern when to delegate important responsibility, and to whom to delegate.
- ___ 17. In the name of the Lord, I have been used to miraculously change circumstances, and He was glorified.
- ___ 18. In the name of the Lord, I have been used in curing sickness through prayer or laying on hands.
- ___ 19. I have spoken in tongues either publicly or privately.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 20. I have interpreted messages in tongues given by myself or others.
- ___ 21. I have felt a sense of authority in relating to other Christians.
- ___ 22. I am single and enjoy it.
- ___ 23. I sometimes recognize prayer needs before others do and feel burdened to pray.
- ___ 24. I feel I could face imprisonment or even death for my faith with confidence.
- ___ 25. I would enjoy being called upon to do special jobs to help out around the church.
- ___ 26. Through God, I sometimes receive revelation about what will happen in the future.
- ___ 27. I have enjoyed relating to the same group of people over a long period of time, in their successes and their failures.
- ___ 28. I feel I could explain clearly the New Testament teaching about the health and ministry of the Body of Christ.
- ___ 29. I can intuitively arrive at solutions to complicated problems.
- ___ 30. I have had insights of truth which brought conviction to other Christians.
- ___ 31. I feel I could be an instrument for stirring the complacent and redirecting the wayward to face spiritual reality.
- ___ 32. I have judged well between what is poor and what is good (or evil and good).
- ___ 33. I have given things or money cheerfully for the Lord's work.
- ___ 34. I have sensed the need to help other people become more effective in their ministries.
- ___ 35. I have felt an unusual compassion for those with physical or spiritual needs.
- ___ 36. I feel I could learn another language well in order to minister to those in a different culture.
- ___ 37. I have shared joyfully how Christ has brought me to Himself in a way that is meaningful to non-believers.
- ___ 38. I have provided a gracious haven for guests without the feeling of family interruption.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 39. I have received from God an unusual assurance that He will do the impossible to fulfill a special work.
- ___ 40. I know where I am going as a Christian, and other Christians seem willing to follow me.
- ___ 41. I can organize ideas, people, resources, and time for more effective ministry.
- ___ 42. In the name of the Lord, I have cast out demons.
- ___ 43. In the name of the Lord, I have healed the emotionally disturbed.
- ___ 44. I have spoken an immediate message of God to His people in a language I have never learned.
- ___ 45. I have interpreted tongues with the result that the Body of Christ was edified, exhorted, or comforted.
- ___ 46. I feel I could proclaim the Gospel in a new area and see new groups of Christians formed.
- ___ 47. I am single and feel indifferent toward being married.
- ___ 48. I take prayer requests more seriously than other Christians seem to.
- ___ 49. Suffering physical persecution for my faith is not something that I am afraid of.
- ___ 50. I have been able to effectively take care of the everyday needs of the Body of Christ.
- ___ 51. I have communicated to others timely and urgent messages which I felt came directly from God.
- ___ 52. I tend to know intimately those I serve and guide, and to be known intimately by them.
- ___ 53. I can devote a great amount of time to learning new biblical truths to communicate to others.
- ___ 54. I have chosen from several biblical alternatives an option which usually worked.
- ___ 55. I feel I can acquire and master new facts and principles of Bible truth.
- ___ 56. I have urged others to seek a biblical solution to their affliction or suffering.
- ___ 57. I tend to look beneath the surface and examine people's motives.
- ___ 58. I feel deeply moved when confronted with urgent financial needs in God's work.
- ___ 59. I have enjoyed doing routine tasks that led to more effective ministry by others.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 60. I would enjoy visiting in hospitals and/or retirement homes, and would do fine in such a ministry.
- ___ 61. I have related well to Christians of a different race, language, or culture.
- ___ 62. I have explained clearly that Jesus is the Savior and have seen positive effect on the listeners.
- ___ 63. I have a knack for making strangers feel at home.
- ___ 64. I can trust in the presence and power of God for the impossible.
- ___ 65. I would enjoy leading, inspiring, and motivating others to involve themselves in the Lord's work.
- ___ 66. I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.
- ___ 67. God has intervened many times to do impossible things in and through my life.
- ___ 68. In the name of the Lord, I have successfully ministered to those who were spiritually sick.
- ___ 69. I can speak to God in a language I have never learned.
- ___ 70. I have prayed that I may interpret if someone begins speaking tongues.
- ___ 71. Other Christians have been willing to do what I say without asking many questions.
- ___ 72. I am glad I have more time to serve the Lord because I am single.
- ___ 73. Prayer has been one of my favorite spiritual exercises. I enjoy praying regularly.
- ___ 74. I feel confident that dying for my faith would not be the worst thing that could happen to me.
- ___ 75. I feel satisfaction in performing routine tasks for God's glory.
- ___ 76. I have a desire to speak direct messages from God that edify, exhort, or comfort others.
- ___ 77. I have helped needy Christians by guiding them to relevant portions of the Bible and praying with them.
- ___ 78. I can communicate biblical truths to others and see resulting changes in knowledge, attitudes, values, or conduct.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 79. I have been able to perceive and apply biblical truth to the specific needs of the Body of Christ.
- ___ 80. I have studied and read a great deal to learn biblical truths.
- ___ 81. I have a desire to effectively counsel the perplexed, the guilty, or the addicted.
- ___ 82. I have accurately recognized whether a teaching is from God, from Satan, or of human origin.
- ___ 83. I am so confident that God will meet my needs that I give to Him sacrificially and consistently.
- ___ 84. I have distributed Gospel literature in my community.
- ___ 85. I enjoy shopping for house-bound people or assisting them in other practical ways.
- ___ 86. I feel I could enjoy living and serving God in a foreign country.
- ___ 87. I have a desire to speak messages which are primarily the Gospel of salvation.
- ___ 88. I have a genuine graciousness toward and appreciation for the guests who come to my home.
- ___ 89. I have felt sure I knew God's specific will for the future growth of His work, even when others have not been so sure.
- ___ 90. I have influenced others to accomplish a particular task or biblical purpose.
- ___ 91. I am able to give directions to others and make decisions for them, rather than trying to persuade them to my way of thinking.
- ___ 92. I have been an instrument for God's supernatural change in lives and events.
- ___ 93. I have prayed for others to be healed and as a result of that prayer healing has occurred.
- ___ 94. When I give a public message in tongues, I expect it to be interpreted.
- ___ 95. I have interpreted tongues in a way that seemed to bless others.
- ___ 96. I have a desire to be sent out by a church to start new churches.
- ___ 97. Sexual fulfillment has generally been low on my priority list.
- ___ 98. God has consistently answered my prayers in tangible ways.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ___ 99. I feel that terrorist threats of death would not shake my faith.
- ___ 100. I have been able to identify and meet the needs involved in a task in the Lord's work.
- ___ 101. I have given messages of warning, judgment, or direction from the Lord.
- ___ 102. I feel I can restore persons who have wandered away from their Christian community.
- ___ 103. I have trained Christians to be more obedient disciples of Christ.
- ___ 104. I have felt an unusual presence of God and personal confidence when important decisions needed to be made.
- ___ 105. I have been able to distinguish key and important facts in Scripture.
- ___ 106. I have comforted Christians in their afflictions or sufferings in such a way that they felt helped or healed.
- ___ 107. I can see through a phony before his phoniness is clearly evident to most other people.
- ___ 108. I have been willing to maintain a lower standard of living in order to benefit God's work.
- ___ 109. I would be happy to be a teacher's aide in a Bible class.
- ___ 110. I would enjoy offering cheerful conversation to a lonely, house-bound person or someone in prison.
- ___ 111. More than most, I have had a strong desire to see peoples of other countries won to the Lord.
- ___ 112. I have a burden to seek out unbelievers in order to win them to Christ.
- ___ 113. I have desired to make my home available to those in the Lord's service.
- ___ 114. I can trust in the reliability of God when all else looks dim.
- ___ 115. Others have followed me because I have had some expert knowledge which contributed to the edification of the church.
- ___ 116. I have enjoyed bearing the responsibility for the success of a group or organization.
- ___ 117. In the name of the Lord, I have been able to recover sight to the blind.
- ___ 118. I have prayed successfully for others restoration of health apart from natural means.

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true of your life: MUCH **(3)**, SOME **(2)**, LITTLE **(1)**, or NOT AT ALL **(0)**.

- ____ 119. When I publicly speak in tongues, I believe it is edifying to the Lord's Body.
- ____ 120. I have interpreted tongues in such a way that the message appeared to be directly from God.
- ____ 121. I have received a commission from Christians to exercise God-given authority among believers and unbelievers.
- ____ 122. Seldom have I felt strong attractions to those of the opposite sex.
- ____ 123. I desire to faithfully pray for others in ministry, since I recognize that their effectiveness depends upon it.
- ____ 124. I can identify with persecuted Christians who will not recant to avoid imprisonment or death.
- ____ 125. I have been able to make use of available resources to accomplish desired goals.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT - SCORE CHART

In the grid below, enter the numerical value of each of your responses next to the number of the corresponding statement on pages 2-8 of the Spiritual Gifts Questionnaire. Then add up the five numbers that you have recorded in each row and place the sum in the "TOTAL" column.

Rows	Value of Answers					Total	Gift
Row A	1	26	51	76	101		Prophecy (Perceiving)
Row B	2	27	52	77	102		Pastor
Row C	3	28	53	78	103		Teaching
Row D	4	29	54	79	104		Wisdom
Row E	5	30	55	80	105		Knowledge
Row F	6	31	56	81	106		Exhortation
Row G	7	32	57	82	107		Discernment
Row H	8	33	58	83	108		Giving
Row I	9	34	59	84	109		Helps
Row J	10	35	60	85	110		Mercy
Row K	11	36	61	86	111		Missionary
Row L	12	37	62	87	112		Evangelist
Row M	13	38	63	88	113		Hospitality
Row N	14	39	64	89	114		Faith
Row O	15	40	65	90	115		Leadership
Row P	16	41	66	91	116		Administration
Row Q	17	42	67	92	117		Miracles
Row R	18	43	68	93	118		Healing
Row S	19	44	69	94	119		Tongues
Row T	20	45	70	95	120		Interpretation
Row U	21	46	71	96	121		Apostle
Row V	22	47	72	97	122		Celibacy
Row W	23	48	73	98	123		Intercession
Row X	24	49	74	99	124		Martyrdom
Row Y	25	50	75	100	125		Service

NOTE: The capital letters before the gift definitions in the "Spiritual Gifts Definitions" packet correspond to Rows A-Y on this chart.

GIFTS AND MINISTRIES

1. Using the results of the Score Chart, enter below in the “Dominant” section your three highest-rated gifts. Then enter in the “Subordinate” section the next three highest-scoring gifts. This will give you a **tentative** evaluation of where your gifts may lie.

Dominant:	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____
Subordinate	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____

2. What ministries are you now performing (formally or informally)?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

3. Are there any of these ministries that you are not especially gifted for? God may be calling you to consider changes.

4. In light of your “gift mix,” what are some ministry models or roles that are suitable for you? What specific roles in the Body of Christ has God possibly gifted you for?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

IDENTIFYING AND DEVELOPING YOUR GIFTS 3A SPIRITUAL GIFT DEFINITIONS

- A. **Prophecy, Perceiving:** The God-given ability to present truth. A persuasiveness and power in speech which brings to light things previously concealed. The ability to supernaturally convey God's message for the moment in the language of speaker and hearers. The gift of directing vision toward matters of vital concern in relation to immediate goals. This gift can be used for the purpose of elevating spiritual vision in the Body of Christ.

Cautions:

- a. Proud of rhetoric or persuasive speech.
- b. Dependent on ability to speak rather than on the Holy Spirit to convict.
- c. Seeing people as groups; not as individuals.
- d. Judgmental and a sharp tongue without love.
- e. Interjecting personal feelings.
- f. Extending the ministry beyond limits. (Personal and Scriptural).
- g. Attempting to move people by demand rather than love.
- h. Public boldness and strict standard may hinder close personal relationships.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28; Ephesians 4:11-14; Romans 12:6; Luke 7:26; Acts 15:32, Acts 21:9-11

- B. **Shepherding, Pastor, Caring:** The gift of being a shepherd and carer to the flock of God. The special ability that God gives to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers. The function of the Pastor gift is primarily to lead and feed. This gift can be used for the purpose of developing a group of believers into spiritual maturity. Not necessarily a strong leader.

Cautions:

- a. Seeing only the needs of the local fellowship.
- b. Attempting to meet every need by personal effort.
- c. Allowing unhealthy dependency to develop. Must let people grow up.
- d. Losing sight of the importance of evangelism and outreach.

Scriptures: Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; John 10:1-18; 1 Peter 5:1-3

- C. **Teaching, Teacher:** Teaching or clarifying truth by ensuring the accuracy of context, etc. An ability to research and unearth facts from Scripture. This involves diligence, fervency in study and careful research. The gift of being able to expound the truths of God's Word in context and to make profound truths simple. This gift can be used for the purpose of edifying the Body of Christ in relations to the basic concepts of successful Christian living.

Cautions:

- a. Boasting of knowledge one has accumulated.
- b. Concentration on details rather than principles
- c. Captivated by research rather than responses.
- d. Believing truth is discerned through intellect.
- e. Expounding truth without applying principles.
- f. Becoming more interested in principles than people.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14; Romans 12:7; Acts 18:24-28, Acts 20:20-21

- D. **Wisdom:** A supernatural revelation showing how to apply the right solution. Insight into how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the body of Christ. Used to supernaturally impart to someone the right procedures to take in a difficult situation.

Cautions:

- a. Over-dependency on gifts.
- b. Lack of prayer and spiritual exercises.
- c. Becoming a "spiritual guru."

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 2:1-13, 12:8; Acts 6:3, 10; James 1:5-6; 2 Peter 3:15

- E. **Knowledge:** A supernatural revelation to meet an emergency or crisis. Used to supernaturally impart to a person or group a fact of knowledge which at that moment is otherwise unknown. Can reveal details about a person or situation.

Cautions:

- a. Hesitancy in communicating due to no logical explanation.
- b. Failure to exercise reason. Avoid jumping to conclusions.
- c. Developing a "fortune-teller" attitude.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 2:14, 12:8; Acts 5:1-11; Colossians 2:2-3; 2 Corinthians 11:6

- F. **Encouragement, Exhortation:** Stimulating the faith of others in specific action toward definite goals. The special ability to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement, and counsel to other members of the body in such a way that they feel helped and healed. An ability to counsel others and encourage them toward spiritual growth.

Cautions:

- a. Boasting about personal results.
- b. Discouraged when progress is slow.
- c. Indiscretion in sharing results.
- d. Giving too much time to the wrong people.
- e. Emphasis on steps of action appear to over simplify problem and disregard feelings

Scriptures: Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 4:2; Hebrews 10:25; Acts 14:22

- G. **Discernment:** The supernatural ability to discern the source of spiritual manifestations; to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human, or satanic. Used to detect the presence of evil spirits or to examine the source of a manifestation which is dubious. Ability to discern between truth and error.

Cautions:

- a. Seeing the problem not the person
- b. Acting harshly -- not firmly.
- c. Developing a critical attitude.
- d. Becoming "God's Policeman."

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10; Acts 5:1-11; Acts 16:16-18; 1 John 4:1-6; Matthew 16:21-23

- H. **Giving:** Giving or joyfully entrusting personal assets or possessions to others for the work of the ministry. An ability to organize personal business; able to wisely invest and make quick and sound decisions about the right use of money.

Cautions:

- a. Becoming proud of one's generosity.
- b. Measuring spiritual success by material gain.
- c. Attempting to buy influence with money.
- d. Overlooking long range goals.
- e. Being "used" by unprincipled ministries.

Scriptures: Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7; 2 Corinthians 9:2-8

- I. **Helps:** The gift of helps is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ 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.

Cautions:

- a. Becoming caught up in details and losing sight of Jesus.
- b. Danger of burnout.
- c. Being judgmental of others who serve in different ways.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:28; Romans 16:1-2; Acts 9:36; Luke 8:2-3 with Mark 15:40-41

- J. **Mercy:** Empathizing by a God-given ability to identify with and comfort those in distress. An ability to sympathize deeply with the misfortunes of others; mentally and emotionally relating and giving aid. An ability to translate compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate suffering.

Cautions:

- a. Proud of ability to sympathize.
- b. Resenting others who are not sympathetic to needs.
- c. Taking up the offenses of others.
- d. Failing to be firm -- guided by emotions, not reason.

Scriptures: Romans 12:8; Mark 9:41; Acts 16:33-34; Luke 10:33-35; Matthew 20:29-34, Matthew 25:34-40; Acts 11:28-30

- K. **Missionary:** The gift of missionary is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to minister whatever other spiritual gifts they have in a second culture. The ability to live and flourish in a culture or geographic location different from the one in which they were born. The grace to leave family, familiarity, and security and trust God for provision, protection, and position.

Cautions:

- a. The danger of "going native."
- b. Must not become judgmental of others who don't "go."
- c. Must have other gifts that give purpose. It is not a stand-alone gift.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, Acts 8:4, Acts 13:2-3, Acts 22:21

- L. **Evangelism:** The gift of being able to point men and women to a saving knowledge of the Lord

Jesus Christ. This gift can be used for the purpose of attracting people to salvation in Christ. May not be a “preacher.” Some times the most effective use of this gift is one-to-one. May be used to stir up and equip the body of Christ to evangelism.

Cautions:

- a. Must not become judgmental of others who do not have this gift.
- b. Must recognize the importance of follow-up and nurture.
- c. Needs to be part of a team.
- d. Danger of pride in success.

Scriptures: Ephesians 4:11-14; 2 Timothy 4:5; Acts 8:26-40, Acts 14:21, Acts 21:8

M. **Hospitality:** The gift of hospitality is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.

Cautions:

- a. One’s own family can suffer if not handled properly.
- b. Can make others feel inadequate if they don’t do as much.

Scriptures: 1 Peter 4:9; Romans 12:9-13, Romans 16:23; Acts 16:14-15; Hebrews 13:1-2

N. **Faith:** The supernatural ability to visualize and witness spiritual achievement. Used to supernaturally empower a person to “believe” beyond their own natural faith. The ability to see the Lord’s will and act on it with unwavering belief in God’s ability.

Cautions:

- a. Fear of being proved wrong.
- b. Ignoring others’ feelings.
- c. Impatient with others who do not have this gift.
- d. Must not be presumptuous.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:9; Acts 11:22-24, Acts 27:21-25; Hebrews 11; Romans 4:18-21

O. **Leadership:** Ruling or co-ordinating the activities of others for the achievement of a common goal. An ability to preside or lead; seeing future consequences of one’s action; able to distinguish major objectives and help others visualize them.

Cautions:

- a. Proud of power over people.
- b. Using people to accomplish goals.
- c. Overlooking character faults in those who can be useful to reaching goals.
- d. The ability to delegate may appear as laziness.

Scriptures: 1 Timothy 5:17; Acts 7:10, Acts 15:7-11; Romans 12:8; Hebrews 13:17

P. **Administration:** The gift of administration is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ 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.

Cautions:

- a. Becoming caught up in details and organization.

- b. Need to give freedom to those given responsibility.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:28; Acts 6:1-7; Acts 27:11; Luke 14:28-30

- Q. **Miracles:** The supernatural ability to suspend natural laws. Used to bring God's power to bear upon situations where natural means fail.

Cautions: a. Pride in experience.
b. Lack of prayer and devotion.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10,28; Acts 9:36-42, Acts 19:11-20, Acts 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 2 Corinthians 12:12

- R. **Healing:** The supernatural ability to bring God's healing power to the sick. Used to bring deliverance to those bound with disease, infirmity, affliction, etc. May be somewhat "specialized," more effective with certain kinds of illness or disease.

Cautions: a. Moving on one's own initiative.
b. Failing to develop sensitivity.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28; Acts 3:1-10, Acts 5:12-16, Acts 9:32-35, Acts 28:7-10

- S. **Tongues:** The special ability to speak to God in a language one has never learned and/or to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to his people through a divinely-anointed utterance in a language one has never learned. Used in congregational worship to bring a message from God or privately as a devotional exercise.

Cautions: a. Regarding "tongues" as a mark of maturity.
b. Proud of the prominence the gift inevitably brings.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10,28, 1 Corinthians 14:13-19; Acts 2:1-13, Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:1-7; Mark 16:17

- T. **Interpretation:** The ability to supernaturally interpret a message in tongues. Used to interpret the Mind of the Spirit as given through a message in other tongues.

Cautions: a. Dependency on one's own initiative.
b. Over-zealousness and failing to develop sensitivity.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:10, 30, 1 Corinthians 14:13, 26-28

- U. **Apostleship:** The gift of pioneering new territory for the Gospel of Christ (a modern missionary. A church-planter. A pioneer or foundation-layer). This gift can be used for the express purpose of making major in-roads with the Gospel message. Has an authority in spiritual matters which is spontaneously recognized and appreciated by others.

Cautions: a. Holding attention by virtue of one's position.

- b. Being proud because of personal selection.
- c. Allowing a ministerial hierarchy to develop around apostolic gift.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 4:11-14, 3:1-9; Acts 15:1-2; Galatians 2:7-10

- V. **Celibacy:** The gift of celibacy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to remain single and enjoy it; to be unmarried and not suffer undue sexual temptations.

Cautions:

- a. Putting the same expectations on other people.
- b. Being proud of the gift God has given.
- c. Becoming a loner.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 7:7-8; Matthew 19:10-12

- W. **Intercession:** The gift of intercession is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and see frequent and specific answers to their prayers, to a degree much greater than that which is expected of the average Christian.

Cautions:

- a. Expecting other people to pray as much and as fervently.
- b. Discouragement at lack of response of others to times of prayer.
- c. Lack of appreciation for other gifts which seem less spiritual.

Scriptures: James 5:14-16; 1 Timothy 2:1-2; Colossians 1:9-12, Colossians 4:12-13; Acts 12:12; Luke 22:41-44

- X. **Martyrdom:** The gift of martyrdom is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to undergo suffering for the faith even to the point of death, while consistently displaying a joyous and victorious attitude which brings glory to God.

Cautions:

- a. Bringing abuse on oneself by an abrasive attitude or behavior
- b. Setting oneself apart from others by being hyper-spiritual

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 13:3; Acts 5:27-41, Acts 7:54-60, Acts 12:1-5, 2 Corinthians 11:21-30, 12:9-10

- Y. **Service:** Serving or demonstrating love by meeting practical needs so that others can be freed for service. An ability to detect personal needs; to overlook personal comfort so that the needs of others can be met.

Cautions:

- a. Proud of good deeds.
- b. Pushy or premature in attempting to meet the needs of others before they themselves realize what those needs are.
- c. Bitter when good deeds are not appreciated.
- d. Over emphasis on practical -- neglect of spiritual.

Scriptures: 2 Timothy 1:16-18; Romans 12:7; Acts 6:1-7; Titus 3:14; Galatians 6:2, 10

QUESTIONS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

Chapter 19 Identifying and Developing Your Gifts 3

1. Complete the spiritual gifts questionnaire.
2. Consider the questions and statements on the last page of the gifts questionnaire.