

GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

The following contains definitions of the Spiritual Gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the Gifts Questionnaire.

*****Indicates the nine Spiritual Gifts explained in Scripture - 1 Cor. 12:8-10.***

A. ADMINISTRATION

The gift of administration is the divine strength or ability to organize multiple tasks and groups of people to accomplish these tasks. Luke 14:28-30, Acts 6:1-7, I Cor. 12:28 (Planning; organizing; keeping track of, and communicating, details, numbers & goals.)

B. APOSTLESHIP

The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and new ministries through planting, overseeing, and training. Acts 15:22-35, I Cor. 12:28, II Cor. 12:12, Gal 2:7-10, Ephesians 4:11-14 (Strategic, church-planting, knowing “what to do next.”)

C. CRAFTSMANSHIP

The gift of craftsmanship is the divine strength or ability to plan, create, build, and work with your hands in constructing environments to accomplish multiple ministry applications, such as communicate God’s truth or create an environment for worship. Exodus 30:22, 31:3-11, II Chronicles 34:9-13, Acts 18:2-3 (Art, Construction, Decorating)

****D. DISCERNMENT**

The gift of discernment is the divine strength or ability to spiritually identify falsehood and to distinguish between right and wrong motives and situations, or the work of evil spirits. Matt. 16:21-23, Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18, I Cor. 12:10, I John 4:1-6 (Used to help new believers or those falling away from Jesus, recognize legalism, to correct or to warn)

E. EVANGELISM

The gift of evangelism is the divine strength or ability to help non-Christians take the necessary steps to becoming a born again Christian. Acts 8:5-6, Acts 8:26-40, Acts 14:21, Acts 21:8, Ephesians 4:11-14 (Proclamation outside, or inside, the church)

F. EXHORTATION

The gift of exhortation is the divine strength or ability to encourage others through the written or spoken word and biblical truth. Acts 14:22, Romans 12:8, I Tim. 4:13, Heb 10:24-25 (Encourages, reproves, corrects, challenges others – Often connected to mercy and/or prophecy.)

****G. FAITH**

The gift of faith is the divine strength or ability to believe in God for unseen supernatural results in a particular arena of life. Acts 11:22-24, Rom 4:18-21, I Cor. 12:9, Hebrews 11 (Can be connected to intercession, to miracles, or healing, or believing for the future and not grow discouraged or weary.)

H. GIVING

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to joyously and meaningfully give to church, to others, and to projects for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth, trusting God to supply one's needs. Mark 12:41-44, Romans 12:8, II Cor. 8:1-7, 9:2-7 (Having a giving heart, wanting to help bless others in tangible ways)

****I. HEALING**

The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying on of hands for the healing of physical and mental illnesses. Acts 3:1-10, Acts 9:32-35, Acts 28:7-10, I Cor. 12:9, 28 (Can be connected with divine knowledge of need/sickness, and/or faith)

J. HELPS

The gift of helps is the divine strength or ability to work in a supportive role for the accomplishment of tasks in Christian ministry. Mark 15:40-41, Acts 9:36, Romans 16:1-2, I Cor. 12:28 (Desire and willingness to coming alongside of others to make them, or a ministry, successful.)

K. HOSPITALITY

The gift of hospitality is the divine strength or ability to create warm, welcoming environments for others in places such as your home, office, or church. Acts 16:14-15, Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23, Heb 13:1-2, I Peter 4:9 (Sharing, caring for others, concern for others feelings and comfort.)

L. INTERCESSION

The gift of intercession is the divine strength or ability to stand in the gap in prayer for someone, something, or someplace believing for profound results. Heb 7:25, Col 1:9-12, Col 4:12-13, Jas 5:14-16 (Being reminded of the need, duty, responsibility to pray for others, finding oneself praying for other's needs first or predominantly over one's own.)

****M. KNOWLEDGE**

The gift of knowledge is the divine strength or ability to bring clarity and to understand things, situations or circumstances either through research or supernaturally, often accompanied by a word from God. Acts 5:1-11, I Cor. 12:8, Col 2:2-3 (Knowledge of Scripture and/or God's will with desire to know even more, help others through referring them to specific passage(s), can be used alongside prophecy)

N. LEADERSHIP

The gift of leadership is the divine strength or ability to influence people at their level while directing and focusing them on the big picture, vision, or idea. Romans 12:8, I Tim. 3:1-13, I Tim. 5:17, Hebrews 13:17 (Ability to make decisions, take charge, show others the way and demonstrate by example - Service, Humility, Godliness,...)

O. MERCY

The gift of mercy is the divine strength or ability to feel empathy and to care for those who are hurting in any way. Matt 9:35-36, Mark 9:41, Romans 12:8, I Thess. 5:14 (Compassion, caring, feeling for others and making them feel loved, accepted, a part of

any group, often connected to exhortation/encouragement, but also be in more practical ways, similar to helps which focuses on the need, mercy focuses on the person.)

****P. MIRACLES**

The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction. Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12, Rom 15:18-19, I Cor. 12:10, 28 (The desire and belief that God will work to demonstrate His love and/or power, that others might believe, be healed, or show that He heard them. Also used to tear down strongholds of the enemy.)

Q. MISSIONARY

The gift of missions is the divine strength or ability to reach others outside of your culture and nationality; while in most cases living in that culture or nation. Acts 8:4, Acts 13:2-3, Acts 22:21, Romans 10:15 (Often connected to apostolic and evangelistic gifts. Feeling a need to help those different from oneself, or “forgotten” by others, or neglected.)

R. MUSIC / WORSHIP

The gift of music / worship is the divine strength or ability to sing, dance, or play an instrument primarily for the purpose of helping others worship God, and make God known. Deut. 31:22, I Sam. 16:16, I Chronicles 16:41-42, II Chronicles 5:12-13, 34:12, Psalm 150 (Often singing songs in heart to God, ability to draw others close(r) to God or instruct through music/song, rather than words alone.)

S. PASTOR / SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor / shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues. John 10:1-18, Eph 4:11-14, I Tim 3:1-7, I Peter 5:1-3 (Fathering, comforting, counseling, mentoring, discipling, leading others. Often connected to teaching, but more relational/personal/holistic.)

****T. PROPHECY**

The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to boldly speak and bring clarity to scriptural and doctrinal truth, in some cases foretelling God’s plan/will individually or to the church. Acts 2:37-40, Acts 7:51-53, Acts 26:24-29, I Cor. 14:1-4, I Thess. 1:5 (Ability to hear God speak and willingness to speak/share with others that which God reveals through the Scriptures, through the Spirit, in dreams or visions.)

U. SERVICE

The gift of serving is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ. Acts 6:1-7, Romans 12:7, Galatians 6:10, II Tim. 1:16-18, Titus 3:14 (“Behind the scenes” or up-front, seeing & doing what needs to be done, doing what is necessary, practical concerns, things.)

V. TEACHING

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians either individually through mentoring, or instructing small group or whole church. Acts 18:24-28, Acts 20:20-21, I Cor. 12:28, Eph 4:11-14 (Ability to understand and communicate truth in memorable/ impactful ways. Often connected to discipling/mentoring - Not just words.)

****W. TONGUES (and Interpretation)**

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues is often accompanied by interpretation and should be used appropriately. Acts 2:1-13, I Cor. 12:10, 14:1-14 (Praying with one's spirit, interceding, or proclaiming God's truth. Often connected to intercession, prophecy, and/or worship.)

****X. WISDOM**

The gift of wisdom is the divine strength or ability to apply the truths of Scripture in a practical way, producing the fruitful outcome and character of Jesus Christ. Acts 6:3,10, I Cor. 2:6-13, I Cor. 12:8 (Used in counseling, understanding, making decisions, advising, and resolving problems.)

