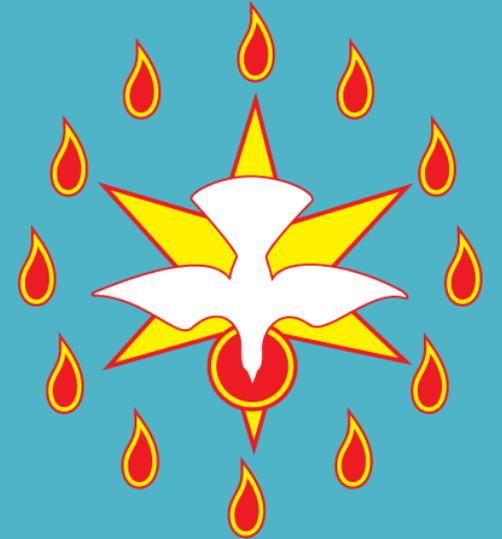


# Discovering and Using Your Spiritual Gifts

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# Course Outline

Week 1: The What, Who, How, and Why of Spiritual Gifts

Week 2: Varieties of Spiritual Gifts

Homework: Spiritual Gifts Self-Assessment

**Week 3: Making Use of Your Spiritual Gifts**

# Course Basis

This course is primarily based on *Discover Your Spiritual Gifts the Network Way* by Bruce Bugbee and Don Cousins. Other main references used were:

- *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts* by Charles V. Bryant
- *Discerning Your Spiritual Gifts* by Lloyd Edwards
- *Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts* by Phyllis Bennett

The on-line self assessment is from the Rock Church in San Diego. It was selected as it most closely follows the gifts identified in the Network program and is one of the shorter assessments (66 questions versus 88, 125, or 133 in others).

Scripture citations are from the New International Version Bible (NIV)

**Week 3**

**Making Use of Your Spiritual Gifts**

# Quick Review of Week 2

- Spiritual gifts are found in Scripture and are evident in your local church
- The Network program is based on 23 spiritual gifts
- Some other sources cite some additional spiritual gifts which are either esoteric or better represented as Christian disciplines

## The “Network 23”

Administration	Apostleship	Craftsmanship	Creative Comm.	Discernment
Encouragement	Evangelism	Faith	Giving	Healing
Helps (Service)	Hospitality	Intercession	Interpretation	Knowledge
Leadership	Mercy	Miracles	Prophecy	Shepherding
	Teaching	Tongues	Wisdom	

**What Are Your Spiritual Gifts ?**

# Homework Results

- Look at the results from your spiritual gifts assessment
- The one(s) with the highest numerical values are your identified spiritual gifts
- Jim Pp:

1. Administration

2. Leadership

3. Service



[Download PDF of your results](#)

## 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; 1 Corinthians 12:28*

## 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; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14*

## 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 with the ability to often see the need before others do.

*Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28*

## 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; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17*

## Giving

The gift of giving is the divine strength or ability to produce wealth and to give by tithes and offerings for the purpose of advancing the Kingdom of God on earth.

*Mark 12:41-44; Romans 12:8; 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, 9:2-7 65*

# Homework Results

- Do these “feel right” to you?
- Were there any surprises?
- Anyone want to share their results and thoughts?

**Remember that all spiritual gifts are of equal importance  
and all are needed in the Body of Christ**

# Digging Deeper

- Your assessment so far is based on how **you** perceive **yourself**
- It is often very helpful to gain insights from how others perceive us
- Often you may not be aware of what others appreciate about you or have noticed your abilities in ministry situations
- Consider asking a spouse, close family member, and/or a friend to take the assessment—based on their impressions of you
- Looking at these additional results:
  - did others' assessments align with your own?
  - were there any surprises?

# What Now ?

- Please consider sharing your spiritual gift(s) with the church
- We would like to create an updated inventory of our members' spiritual gifts
  - Help the church leadership know whom to ask for specific needs
  - Have a better match of ministry needs with member spiritual gifts
  - Avoid always going to the same volunteers
- Please drop a note to the office with you name and spiritual gift(s)
- Thank you!

# Do Spiritual Gifts Change Over Time ?

- There is no explicit answer to this in scripture
- The overwhelming majority of writers conclude that **the gifts themselves don't change**, but the individual believer can mature and become more effective in the exercise of his or her gifts
- Most believers will testify that they have improved in the use of their gift(s) over time and with continual practice

# Using Your Spiritual Gifts

# Personal Benefits

- Spiritual gifts are to benefit others, not for personal gain

*However . . .*

- How joyous and meaningful to discover God's will for your life!
- Knowing your spiritual gifts helps you to focus on what you can do best
- Your ministry will be more fruitful and fulfilling if it is aligned with your spiritual gifts
- There is nothing wrong with enjoying the use of your spiritual gift!  
(but avoid pride—you didn't earn the gift, it was freely given by God)

# Church Benefits

Remember: Spiritual Gifts are . . .

- distributed to every believer according to God's design and grace for the common good of the body of Christ
- used in unity to build up the body of Christ

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

*Romans 12:6 (NIV)*

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. . . . the body is not made up of one part but of many.

*1 Cor 12:12-14*

# Church Benefits

- God has given you the spiritual gifts necessary to do His will
- By knowing **your gifts** and using them accordingly, you will be better able to accomplish His **purpose for your life**
- Knowing your spiritual gifts helps you to focus on what you can do best
- The spiritual gifts of church members are to be used in interdependently
- If a church does not acknowledge and use its members' gifts, the fellowship will become stale, burned out, and full of crippling conflicts

# Church Benefits

## In Worship

- Use of our spiritual gifts allows us to raise worship from a passive act of predictable rituals to active participation in the body of Christ
- The human body is healthy only when all its parts work in harmony
- Similarly, the church in authentic worship requires the presence and use of all members' spiritual gifts—not just those of the pastor and musicians

# Church Benefits

## The Bible and Prayer Life

- The Bible is more than a sacred paper shrine
- When we discover and use our spiritual gifts, the Bible becomes a living study guide for inspired living
- Awareness of our spiritual gifts raises prayers from mostly pleas for “things” to giving praise, thanks, and requests for guidance
- Prayers move from simple ritual to open and animated communication

# Church Benefits

## In Witnessing

- Using our spiritual gifts is a form of witnessing to the grace of God
- They enable us to “walk the talk” and show God’s love through actions
- When people discover that God blessed them with these gifts, they become motivated to share them freely with others

# Final Review

- Spiritual gifts are unmerited blessings from God, given in accordance with His design through the Holy Spirit to believers
- They are a form of stewardship, entrusted to us by the Lord, which we are to use in His service
- Our spiritual gifts are conduits through which God's grace moves
- We do not get to pick our gifts—God knows better than us!
- God does not give us gifts to succeed but rather to be used; using our gifts always leads to God's intended results

# Closing Prayer

LORD,

Thank you for the amazing array of gifts you have poured out upon your people.  
And thank you for giving a special gift to me so that I can participate in the church  
according to your perfect plan.

Please help me to recognize, nurture, and use my gift.

If I have ignored it, forgive me.

If I have suppressed it, stir it up.

Direct my thoughts toward your desired area of service for me,  
And empower me to become everything that you created me to be:  
Fruitful, joyful, loving, faithful, and grateful.

In Jesus' name,  
Amen.