



Church Jumpstart:

A 10-Week Journey Towards Reviving Our Church

Session 8: Look Within You

Discovering Our SHAPE For Ministry – Part 1

“Your hands shaped me and made me.” – Job 10:8

I. S = Spiritual Gifts

“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.” ~ 1 Corinthians. 12:1

A. DEFINITION:

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 build up the Body of Christ.

B. TEN TRUTHS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Only **BELIEVERS** have spiritual gifts.

“The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.” ~ 1 Corinthians 2:14

2. Every Christian has at least **ONE** gift.

“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” ~ 1 Corinthians 12:7

3. No one receives **ALL** the gifts.

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?” ~ 1 Corinthians 12:27-30

4. No single gift is given to **EVERYONE**.
"If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell?" ~ 1 Corinthians 12:12
5. You can't **EARN OR WORK FOR** a spiritual gift.
"But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it." ~ Ephesians 4:7
"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them." ~ Romans 12:6
"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." ~ 1 Peter 4:10
6. The **HOLY SPIRIT** decides what gifts I get.
"All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines." ~ 1 Corinthians 12:11
7. The gifts I'm given are **PERMANENT**.
"...for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable." ~ Romans 11:29
8. I am to **DEVELOP** the gifts God gives me.
"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands." ~ 2 Timothy 1:6
9. It's a sin to **WASTE** the gifts God gave me.
"Working together with [Christ] then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain." ~ 2 Corinthians 6:1
10. Using my gifts **GLORIFIES** God and helps me **GROW**.
"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." ~ John 15:8

C. THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Not for my benefit, but **FOR OTHERS**.
"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others." ~ 1 Peter 4:10
"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." ~ 1 Corinthians 12:7
2. To produce **MATURITY** and **STABILITY** in our church family.
"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,...until we all reach

unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.” ~ Ephesians 4:11, 13-14

D. CAUTIONS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Don't confuse gifts with **NATURAL TALENTS**.
2. Don't confuse gifts with the **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**.
“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.” ~ Galatians 5:22-23
 - “Fruit” shows my **MATURITY**. (see 1 Corinthians 13)
 - “Gifts” show my **MINISTRY**.
3. Don't confuse gifts with **CHRISTIAN ROLES**.
4. Be aware of the **“GIFT PROJECTION”** tendency. (Expecting others to serve the way you do and have similar results)
5. Don't think your gift makes you **SUPERIOR** to others.
“The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I don't need you!’ And the head cannot say to the feet, ‘I don't need you!’” ~ 1 Corinthians 12:21
6. Beware of **GIFT ENVY**.
“If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.” ~ 1 Corinthians 12:15
7. Realize that using my gifts without love is **WORTHLESS!**
“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.” ~ 1 Corinthians 13:1-3
8. Recognize that I have both a *Primary* and a *Secondary* ministry in my church:
 - My PRIMARY MINISTRY commitment should be in the area where I am **GIFTED**.
 - My SECONDARY MINISTRY includes serving in any other area of the Body when I am **NEEDED**.

Discovering My SHAPE

Inspired by the work of Pastor Rick Warren

I. UNPACKING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

The Bible does not lock us into tight restrictions as to the number of spiritual gifts, or even their definitions. The four major lists of gifts are found in Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-31, and Ephesians 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:9-11 but there are other passages that mention or illustrate gifts not included in these lists.

As you read through this list, check off your initial impression concerning yourself.

GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD'S WORD

PREACHING ("Prophecy") ~ 1 Corinthians 14:3

The ability to publicly communicate God's word in an inspired way that convinces unbeliever and both challenges and comforts believers. The ability to persuasively declare God's will

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

EVANGELISM ~ Acts 8:26-40

The ability to communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to unbelievers in a positive, non-threatening way. The ability to sense opportunities to share Christ and lead people to respond with faith.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

MISSIONS ~ 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, Acts 13:2-3

The ability to adapt to a different culture in order to reach unbelievers and help believers from that culture.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

APOSTLE ~ Romans 15:20

The ability to start new churches and oversee their development.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

GIFTS THAT EDUCATE GOD'S PEOPLE

TEACHING ~ Ephesians 4:12-13

The ability to educate God's people by clearly explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn. The ability to equip and train other believers for ministry.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

ENCOURAGEMENT (“Exhortation”) ~ Acts 14:22

The ability to motivate God’s people to apply and **act on** Biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or wavering in their faith. The ability to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

WISDOM ~ 1 Corinthians 2:1, 6-16

The ability to understand God’s perspective on life situations and share those insights in a simple, understandable way. The ability to explain what to do and how to do it.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

DISCERNMENT ~ 1 John 4:1-6

The ability to distinguish right from wrong, truth from error, and to give an immediate evaluation based on God’s Word. The ability to discern whether the source of an experience is Satan, self, or God’s Spirit.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

KNOWLEDGE ~ Daniel 1:17

The ability to discover, collect, analyze, and organize information that is vital to individual believers or the entire church family. The ability to comprehend a large amount of information and provide it when needed for effective decision-making.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD’S LOVE**SERVICE ~ Acts 6:1-7**

The ability to recognize unmet needs in the church family, and take the initiative to provide practical assistance quickly, cheerfully, and without a need for recognition.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

MERCY ~ Luke 10:30-37

The ability to detect hurt and empathize with those who are suffering in the church family. The ability to provide compassionate and cheerful support to those experiencing distress, crisis, or pain.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

HOSPITALITY ~ 1 Peter 4:9-10

The ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed, accepted, and comfortable in the church family. The ability to coordinate factors that promote fellowship.

I’m pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don’t think I have this gift. ◇

PASTORING (“Shepherding”) ~ 1 Peter 5:2-4

The ability to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers and equip them for ministry.

The ability to nurture a small group in spiritual growth and assume responsibility for their welfare.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

GIVING ~ 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

The ability to generously contribute material resources and/or money beyond the 10% tithe so that the Body may grow and be strengthened. The ability to earn and manage money so it may be given to support the ministry of others.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE (Worship or prayer-related gifts)

MUSIC ~ Psalm 150

The ability to celebrate God's presence through music, either vocal or instrumental, and to lead the church family in worship.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

ARTS & CRAFTS ~ Exodus 31:3-11

The ability to build, maintain, or beautify the place of worship for God's glory. The ability to express worship through a variety of art forms.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

INTERCESSION ~ Colossians 1:9-12

The ability to pray for the needs of others in the church family over extended periods of time on a regular basis. The ability to persist in prayer and not be discouraged until the answer arrives.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

HEALING ~ James 5:14-16

The ability to pray in faith specifically for people who need physical, emotional, or spiritual healing and see God answer. The ability to sense when God is prompting you to pray this kind of prayer.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

MIRACLES ~ Mark 11:23-24

The ability to pray in faith specifically for God's supernatural intervention into an impossible situation and see God answer.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

PRAYING WITH MY SPIRIT ("Tongues/Interpretation") ~ 1 Corinthians 14:13-15

The ability to pray in a language understood only by God or one who is given the gift of interpretation at that time.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

GIFTS THAT SUPPORT ALL FOUR OF THESE PURPOSES

LEADERSHIP ~ Hebrews 13:7

The ability to clarify and communicate the purpose and direction, the vision, of a ministry in a way that attracts others to get involved. The ability to motivate others by example to work together in accomplish a ministry goal.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

ADMINISTRATION ~ Acts 6:1-4

The ability to recognize the gifts of others and recruit them to ministry. The ability to organize and manage people, resources, and time for effective ministry. The ability to coordinate many details and execute the plans of leadership.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

FAITH ~ Genesis 15:4-6

The ability to trust God for what cannot be seen and to act on God's promise, regardless of what the circumstances indicate. The willingness to risk failure in pursuit of a God-given vision, expecting God to handle the obstacles.

I'm pretty sure I have this gift. ◇ I may have this gift. ◇ I don't think I have this gift. ◇

WHICH SPIRITUAL GIFTS DO I THINK I HAVE? (See if you can list 3 or 4).

NOW LOOK AT THE FULL MEMBER SHEET. CIRCLE AREAS OF MINISTRY WHERE YOU COULD SERVE. WRITE THEM BELOW.

KEY TO REMEMBER:

IT'S EASIER TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS THROUGH MINISTRY THAN TO DISCOVER YOUR MINISTRY THROUGH YOUR GIFTS. IN OTHER WORDS...GET INVOLVED!