

## Spiritual Gift Descriptions

**1. Administration: (I Corinthians 12:28)** You have the ability to understand what makes an organization efficient, and the capacity to plan events, organize information, and implement procedures to accomplish the goals or policies of ministry activities. You are very responsible. Reminder: You will need to realize that your idea may not always be adopted and that details do not matter as much to other people! Work to support the overall ministry goals.

**2. Apostleship: (I Corinthians 12:29-29; Ephesians 4:7-12)** You have a God-given ability to start new ministries or churches, adapt to new surroundings. You are comfortable and sensitive in culturally different situations. You are very cause-driven.

Reminder: You will need to be careful that others don't hear your vision as critical and pessimistic. Look for ways to affirm those who are in leadership over you, and learn from those who have gone before you in mission efforts.

**3. Craftsmanship: (Exodus 31:3; 35:31-35)** You have a God-given ability to design or construct ministry-related objects that meet tangible ministry needs. You enjoy using your hands to skillfully and practically build God's kingdom. You are very resourceful.

Reminder: Although what you do may be very practical it makes a significant contribution to God's work in the world.

**4. Creative Communication: (Psalm 150:3-5)** You have a God-given ability to use the arts to visually or verbally communicate God's truth, challenging people to consider Christ's message and drawing them to worship God in fresh ways. You are very artistic, creative and expressive.

Reminder: The beauty you create, in whatever form your art takes, is a reflection of God's passion for beauty but is not to be worshipped for its own sake. Be sure to focus the direction of your artistic expression on God and his glory.

**5. Discernment: (I Corinthians 12:7-10)** You have a God-given ability to accurately detect and distinguish between truth and error, good and evil, right and wrong without external evidence or proof. You are very intuitive.

Reminder: Check out your instincts with other people you trust in the body of Christ before you speak out. Resist the temptation to squelch your discernment; even if no one will listen you are called to take it to God in prayer.

**6. Encouragement: (Romans 12:6-8)** You have a God-given ability to listen and respond to people so that they feel valued and loved by God through encouragement, challenge, and application of God's truth. You are very trustworthy.

Reminders: Resist the temptation to be a "cheerleader" instead of finding out what the real issues are that is causing a person's discouragement.

**7. Evangelism: (Ephesians 4:7-11)** You have a God-given ability to communicate the gospel to unbelievers with such clarity and conviction that people eagerly respond to faith in Christ with a desire to grow in Christ. You are very commitment-conscious.

Reminders: Rely on the Holy Spirit to help you discern the spiritual receptivity of non-believers, putting more emphasis on the relationship and hearing their story than simply sharing a formula of commitment. Don't expect everyone to have the same level of passion or success when witnessing to their faith in Jesus Christ as you do!

**8. Faith: (I Corinthians 12:7-9)** You have a God-given ability to believe in God with complete confidence and to trust in God's ability to accomplish his purposes despite what other people see as barriers. You are very hopeful and find it easy to trust God with your prayers.

Reminders: Although you have complete confidence in God's faithfulness, affirm people's pain or need in the moment. Look for ways to strengthen your understanding of God's promises through scripture.

**9. Giving: (Romans 12:6-8)** You have a God-given ability to freely and joyfully give your money, talent, and possessions to the work of God, either to a specific individual or to meet a ministry need. You are compelled to share your resources. You are very stewardship-conscious.

Reminders: Be careful that the amount of your gift doesn't become a source of pride or manipulation to get attention for yourself. Don't resent or pressure those who don't have the same ability to give as you do.

**10. Healing/Miracles: (I Corinthians 12:7-9)** You have a God-given ability to supernaturally restore a person to health and wholeness or see God perform acts in a supernatural way, believing strongly that God does the healing/miracle. I am very humble and hesitate to bring attention to myself.

Reminders: Be careful not to take credit for the healing that people experience through your prayers or actions. Be sure everyone is aware that Jesus is the healer, not you.

**11. Helps: (I Corinthians 12:28; Romans 12:7)** You have a God-given ability to assist and support others which frees them up to do ministry by providing practical help and attaching spiritual value to your service. You are very available.

Reminders: Learn to say no so that you don't resent being used rather than valued and appreciated.

**12. Hospitality: (I Peter 4:9-10)** You have a God-given ability to provide a warm and welcoming environment for people so they feel valued and cared for in their physical or relational needs. You are very friendly.

Reminder: Always ask God to direct your paths to those he is calling you to open your home and life to, making sure it does not violate the comfort/safety of yourself or your family.

**13. Intercession: (Romans 8:26-27)** You have a God-given ability to know when to pray (being especially sensitive to spiritual battles). You are willing to persist in prayer and enjoy periods of extensive prayer. Prayer is generally your first response to a need. You see God respond to your prayers in specific ways. I am very spiritually sensitive.

Reminder: Be careful that you don't let your experience of prayer or intimacy with God cause you to consider yourself more spiritual than others. Don't expect other Christians to have the same discipline of prayer as you do, it is a gift of God that is to be used on behalf of the whole body of Christ!

**14. Knowledge: (I Corinthians 12:8)** You have a God-given ability to understand, retain, and effectively use biblical information for the benefit of God's people and to his glory. You can remember and reference scripture very easily. You help people interpret what the bible says about particular issues or concerns.

Reminder: Be careful that you remain humble with your unique ability to retain biblical knowledge so that others don't resist or resent your insights.

**15. Leadership: (Romans 12:8)** You have a God-given ability to motivate, organize, mobilize and lead people toward accomplishing God's purposes. You are very influential in communicating a vision and attracting people to join you to reach a goal.

Reminder: Be careful that your leadership doesn't become dictatorial. Check yourself often, if there is no one following your lead you may be misusing your gift!

**16. Mercy: (Romans 12:8)** You have a God-given ability to identify, listen to, and share genuine concern and sympathy toward people who are suffering in a way that reflects the love of Christ. You are very compassionate in your desire to alleviate suffering.

Reminder: Be careful you set appropriate boundaries when dealing with other people's pain or burdens so you don't end up overwhelmed and depressed.

**17. Prophecy: (Ephesians 4:7-11)** You have a God-given ability to speak God's truth in a relevant and timely way that causes people to return to God and move away from the deceptions of culture. You are compelled to speak the truth whether it is encouraging or difficult for people to hear. I am very truthful and sometimes confrontational.

Reminder: Don't be overly critical; speak the truth in love so that people don't ignore your message. Be sure to check out your convictions with discerning people; don't assume every idea is from God!

**18. Shepherding: (Ephesians 4:11-12)** You have a God-given ability to guide, nurture and spiritually care for believers, encouraging them toward becoming fully-devoted followers of Christ. You are very relational; people respond to your spiritual counsel. Reminder: Don't neglect your own spiritual life so that you are prepared to lead others. Resist the temptation to limit a person's growth to only your influence, allow people to experience guidance from other's to enhance their spiritual journey.

**19. Teaching: (Romans 12:7)** You have a God-given ability to effectively gather, organize, and clearly explain God's word in an easily understood way so that people can apply it in their lives. You are very articulate in connecting biblical truth to everyday life.

Reminder: The goal of teaching is to help people understand and apply God's word to their lives, not to display your knowledge. Be disciplined in preparing so that you move people beyond learning facts to life application.

**20. Tongues/Interpretation: (I Corinthians 12:7-10)** You have a God-given ability to speak or interpret a supernatural or known language that is unknown to the speaker. You are very receptive to new revelation.

Reminder: Remember this is only one of the Holy Spirit's gifts given for the building up of the church. Be careful that you don't allow your intimacy with God to turn into pride, for that will extinguish the power of the Spirit.

**21. Wisdom: (Corinthians 12:7-8)** You have a God-given ability to apply biblical truth in practical and sensible ways to general situations or ministry decisions that are unclear to others. You are very sensible and a good listener as you gather information, out of which comes guidance or conclusions that resonate with others as being correct.

Reminder: Remember the clarity you glean in discussions is a gift; don't get frustrated by others who don't see answers as quickly as you. Speak up when you feel a prompting from God; if you remain silent it will take longer for a group to find resolution.