

# ***SPIRITUAL GIFT Descriptions***

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Administration –</b><br/>Supernatural ability to plan, organize and execute procedures to effectively achieve imparted vision and church goals</p>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organizes people and events</li> <li>• Puts details into plan of action</li> <li>• Follows through on projects</li> <li>• Translates vision to reality</li> </ul>  | <p>I Corinthians 12:28<br/>Acts 6:1-7<br/>Titus 1:5<br/>Luke 14:28-30</p>   |
| <p><b>Apostle –</b> Supernatural ability to exercise spiritual authority, lay spiritual foundations, and extend God's kingdom. Pioneers new churches and new works.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercises authority beyond the local church, often offering guidance to a multitude of churches</li> <li>• Visionary, starts new ministries</li> <li>• Ministry includes signs, wonders, miracles</li> </ul>   | <p>Ephesians 4:11<br/>Acts 15:1-35<br/>I Corinthians 12:28<br/>2 Corinthians 12:12<br/>Romans 1:1-5<br/>Ephesians 3:1-9</p>   |
| <p><b>Celibacy –</b> Supernatural ability to remain single and enjoy it as a strategic blessing</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmarried but does not suffer undue sexual temptation</li> <li>• Has healthy relationships but does not yearn for marriage or children</li> <li>• Excited about being able to work hard to further the Kingdom without the responsibility of a family</li> </ul>   | <p>I Corinthians 7:7-9<br/>Matthew 19:10-12</p>   |
| <p><b>Craftsmanship –</b><br/>Supernatural ability to create furnishings or works of art that enable or accomplish worship and ministry</p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Works of art” can include musical, dramatic, and written (as well as visual) pieces</li> <li>• Will often feel like they are merely making visible a pattern revealed to them by God or that they are creating beyond their natural ability</li> <li>• What they create ministers to people in specific and powerful ways</li> </ul>  | <p>Exodus 31:1-11; 35:30-36:2<br/>Exodus 15:20-21</p> <p>Many of the psalms are expressions of this gift (though because they are inspired Scripture they carry special authority that other expressions of this gift would not).</p> |
| <p><b>Discernment –</b> Supernatural ability to determine whether a certain message, action or behavior has its source in God, man, or Satan</p>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supernatural perception into the spiritual realm</li> <li>• Gives direction for more effective prayer</li> <li>• Persons with this gift are often very effective in deliverance ministry</li> </ul>  | <p>I Corinthians 12:10<br/>1 John 4:1-3<br/>2 Corinthians 11:13-15<br/>Acts 13:9-10<br/>Acts 16:16-18</p>   |
| <p><b>Evangelist –</b> Supernatural ability to share the gospel in such a way that others commit their lives to Christ.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians are called to witness (II Timothy 4:5); those with this gift do so with greater effectiveness and passion</li> <li>• Often find God sets up “divine appointments” for them to share the gospel</li> </ul>   | <p>Ephesians 4:11<br/>Acts 2:14, 37-41<br/>Acts 8:26-40<br/>Acts 8:12-13, 21:8</p>  |
| <p><b>Exhortation –</b> Supernatural ability to offer encouragement, comfort, or rebuke in such a way that others are helped and strengthened in the Lord</p>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians are to encourage one another (see Hebrews 10:25), but this is different from the gift of Exhortation</li> <li>• Sees people as God sees them</li> <li>• Exercise of this gift is marked by gentleness and love</li> <li>• Even when sharing a hard word, others feel uplifted, not condemned</li> <li>• Often experience “divine appointments” to be around hurting people</li> </ul> | <p>Romans 12:8<br/>I Thessalonians 2:11-12<br/>Acts 11:22-25 (cf. 4:36)<br/>Acts 14:21-22<br/>II Corinthians 1:3-4</p>  |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>Faith</b> – Supernatural confidence from God regarding his will and purposes for the future of his work, and the ability to trust him for it until he brings it to pass.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians have saving faith (Ephesians 2:8) and general faith in God (Hebrews 11:6), but those are different from the gift of Faith</li> <li>• Often exceeds rational means of knowing</li> <li>• Often functions in regard to protection and provision for a specific situation or need</li> <li>• Tend to move out or stand firm when others are unwilling or shrink back</li> <li>• Calm certainty that God will act</li> </ul>                | <p>Hebrews 11<br/>I Corinthians 12:9<br/>Romans 4:18-21<br/>Acts 27:21-25<br/>Daniel 6:23</p> |
| <p><b>Giving</b> – Supernatural ability to give freely and extravagantly from one's financial and material resources to advance the Kingdom of God</p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians are to give to support God's work; this is different from the gift of Giving</li> <li>• Doesn't necessarily mean giving large sums, but does mean giving generously</li> <li>• Discreet about giving; doesn't seek recognition</li> <li>• Makes plans to use money and material possessions to further the Kingdom</li> </ul>   | <p>2 Corinthians 8:1-7<br/>Acts 4:36-37<br/>Mark 12:41-44<br/>Romans 12:8</p>                 |
| <p><b>Healings</b> – Supernatural ability to bring a measure of restoration of physical, emotional or spiritual health through a direct act of God</p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All disciples of Jesus are to pray for the sick; this is different from the gifts of Healings</li> <li>• As there are many kinds of illnesses, there are many kinds of healing gifts</li> <li>• Supernatural healing may at times be instantaneous, while at other times progressive</li> <li>• Always done in dependence on God</li> <li>• Sometimes seen with word of knowledge or wisdom</li> </ul>   | <p>I Corinthians 12:9<br/>Many examples in the Gospels and Acts</p>                           |
| <p><b>Helps</b> – Supernatural ability to unselfishly meet the needs of others through practical service.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More person-centered than gift of Service</li> <li>• Willing to serve another's vision</li> <li>• Finds great joy in freeing others from responsibilities so they can more effectively minister</li> <li>• Able to see what needs to be done and wants to do it</li> </ul>   | <p>Mark 15:40-41<br/>I Corinthians 12:28<br/>Acts 9:36<br/>II Timothy 1:16-18</p>             |
| <p><b>Hospitality</b> – Supernatural ability to willingly and joyfully welcome guests and strangers with warmth and generosity</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians are to show hospitality (see I Peter 4:9 and Romans 12:13), but this is different from the gift of Hospitality</li> <li>• Extends welcome, warmth and kindness to others, often specifically directed toward those in need of food, shelter, fellowship, refuge, healing, etc.</li> <li>• Most often associated with welcoming people into one's home</li> <li>• Comfortable with people around and gravitates to new people</li> </ul> | <p>Luke 10:38<br/>Acts 16:14-15<br/>Romans 16:23<br/>II John 9-11<br/>III John 5-8</p>        |
| <p><b>Intercession</b> – Supernatural ability to effectively pray for extended periods of time with a burden for specific things and/or people.</p>                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Christians are to pray; this is different from the gift of Intercession</li> <li>• Consistent and faithful in prayer over time</li> <li>• Doesn't give up when an immediate answer to prayer isn't received</li> <li>• Not limited or intimidated with the size of the need</li> </ul>   | <p>Luke 22:44<br/>Colossians 1:9, 4:12<br/>James 5:16b-18</p>                                 |

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Interpretation of Tongues</b> – Supernatural ability to give an explanation of that which was spoken in tongues</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is not a word-for-word translation but a “dynamic equivalent” or explanation.</li> <li>• Differs from prophecy in that tongues is speech from us to God; prophecy is from God to us</li> </ul>  | <p>See verses from I Corinthians on the gift of Tongues.</p>   |
| <p><b>Leadership</b> – Supernatural ability to influence people in accordance with God's purposes so that they willingly follow and work together</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides oversight for the vision and direction of a process (big picture)</li> <li>• Able to see final results and importance of a major undertaking in advance</li> <li>• Shares vision effectively with others</li> <li>• Able to involve many people in the process</li> </ul>   | <p>Luke 22:25-27<br/>Romans 12:8<br/>Exodus 4:29-5:1<br/>Nehemiah 2:17-18</p>  |
| <p><b>Mercy</b> – Supernatural ability to feel empathy and compassion for and to minister cheerfully in a practical way to those who suffer physically, emotionally or spiritually</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kind and compassionate, especially toward the “unlovely”</li> <li>• Drawn by God's burden to the outcast, outsider, and unloved</li> <li>• Effective in ministering to those who are ill, even terminally ill</li> <li>• Can identify with being “overcome with compassion” as Jesus was</li> </ul>                          | <p>Romans 12:8<br/>Luke 10:33-35<br/>Matthew 20:29-34</p>  |
| <p><b>Miracles</b> – Supernatural ability to display divine power that authenticates the message of Christ and glorifies God where no natural explanation is possible</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Often accompanies and authenticates the proclamation of the Gospel</li> <li>• Often seen with gift of Apostle</li> <li>• Miracles include healings, but can also include miracles over nature, miracles of provision, and resurrection of the dead (to name a few).</li> </ul>   | <p>I Corinthians 12:10, 28<br/>Romans 15:18-19<br/>Acts 9:36-42<br/>Exodus 17:1-6<br/>John 2:2-11<br/>Matthew 8:24-26</p>                                    |
| <p><b>Pastor</b> – Supernatural ability to nurture, equip and minister to the spiritual needs of individuals or groups of believers and be committed to their long term spiritual growth.</p>                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loves people and equipping them for ministry, focusing on building them up</li> <li>• Leads by example</li> <li>• Often seen with Teaching</li> </ul>  | <p>Ephesians 4:11<br/>I Peter 5:1-3</p>  |
| <p><b>Prophecy</b> – Supernatural ability to receive and communicate the heart of God through a divine utterance in a known tongue.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prophecy will edify (build up), exhort (urge, encourage) or comfort (bring contentment or relief from grief).</li> <li>• Will have the precise words necessary to touch the heart and bring about the desired result</li> <li>• Public use of prophecy should be fitting and orderly (I Corinthians 14:29-33, 40)</li> </ul> | <p>Romans 12:6<br/>I Corinthians 12:10, 28<br/>1 Corinthians 14<br/>Ephesians 4:11<br/>Acts 15:32<br/>Acts 11:27-30, 21:9-14<br/>I Thessalonians 5:19-21</p> |
| <p><b>Service</b> – Supernatural ability to identify the unmet needs in a task related to God's work and to find joy in practically meeting those needs</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More task-centered than gift of Helps</li> <li>• Often will enjoy manual jobs, projects and functions</li> <li>• Often will work with or under others to accomplish projects</li> <li>• Can be content doing the same task every Sunday or for long periods of time, well after others get bored and drop out</li> </ul>     | <p>Roman 12:7<br/>I Corinthians 16:15-18<br/>I Peter 4:11</p>  |
| <p><b>Teacher</b> – Supernatural ability to clearly and accurately communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the Body and its members in such a way that others will learn and grow in Christlikeness.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mature believers should be able to teach or explain the basics of the faith (Hebrews 5:11-14), but this is different from the gift of Teacher</li> <li>• Held to a higher standard (James 3:1)</li> <li>• Communicates with a clarity and insight that motivates people to respond</li> </ul>                                | <p>Ephesians 4:11<br/>Acts 18:24-28<br/>Romans 12:6-7<br/>I Corinthians 12:28</p>  |

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Tongues</b> – Supernatural utterance in languages never learned by the speaker, not understood by the mind of the speaker, nor necessarily always understood by the hearer</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Directed to God, not to men</li> <li>• Edifies the person using the gift</li> <li>• Public use requires accompanying gift of Interpretation (see above)</li> <li>• Not “the” sign of being filled or baptized with the Holy Spirit</li> </ul>   | <p>Acts 2<br/>1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:4-5, 19, 22, 26-28<br/>Mark 16:15-18</p>  |
| <p><b>Word of Knowledge*</b> – Supernatural ability to receive specific knowledge revealed by the Holy Spirit and to share this knowledge which was not otherwise known</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has supernatural insight coming through prayer</li> <li>• Pertinent or specific Biblical knowledge is shared which results in others being blessed and encouraged</li> <li>• May know a concept that hasn’t come through education or training</li> <li>• Words, ideas, or pictures may come to mind</li> </ul> | <p>I Corinthians 12:8<br/>Matthew 16:15-17<br/>John 4:16-18<br/>Acts 5:1-11</p> |
| <p><b>Word of Wisdom*</b> – Supernatural ability to direct someone to a specific course of action in a given situation or to a specific application of otherwise revealed truth (such as Scripture or a prophecy or word of knowledge)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practically apply spiritual truth and offer helpful solutions</li> <li>• Display godly understanding and insights of situations they previously had no information on</li> <li>• May come as a vision or dream</li> <li>• Often seen with Word of Knowledge</li> </ul>  | <p>I Corinthians 12:8<br/>Acts 9:10-18<br/>Acts 10:17-23</p>                    |

\*The precise distinction between what Paul meant by “word of wisdom” and “word of knowledge” is not known. These descriptions are to some extent “educated guesses” based on practical experience. People with one of these gifts often have the other, so perhaps it’s best not to over-distinguish between them.