

**SIMI HILLS SUNDAY SCHOOL**

# **Desiring Spiritual Gifts**

**Putting our Personalities and Abilities  
to work for our Lord**

# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

***“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14
- Paul just finished writing the “Love Chapter”
- He says, *“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”*
- We have two options available to us:
  - This entire chapter (nay, several chapters in the New Testament) don’t apply to us
  - OR, we are to come to understand what Spiritual Gifts are and use them in our lives
- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:1-13
- There are several meanings to the term “Spiritual Gifts”
  - In one sense they are spiritual abilities that God *gives* to us.
  - Once we receive a spiritual gift from God, we are called to turn around and *give* it to others. Not in the sense of giving them the ability to do what we do, but in giving them the blessing of our gift.
  - A third level to the term “spiritual gifts” is what it *gives* us as it is being used.
- Romans 12:4-15
- There are two things that make up “who we are”
  - Our Personalities
  - Our Abilities
- God has given us these:
  - Some at Our Natural Birth
  - Some at Our Spiritual Birth – When we are Born Again of the Spirit

- John 3:5-8

- 5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- 6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- 7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
- 8) The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

- The Ones that we receive at our Spiritual Birth are called Spiritual Gifts

- Our “Natural Abilities” are “God Given Gifts”
- Our “Developed Abilities” are influenced by the Spirit of God at work in our lives

- Some are more Miraculous than others...

But, ALL are from God!

- The Purpose of our Spiritual Gifts is:

*“...whoever wants to be greatest among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

- Matthew 20:26-28

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:7-11

- This study will examine:

- 1) Our Personalities – and how “who we are” affects “what we do”
- 2) Our Abilities – and how what we do best is influenced by what we like best
- 3) Our Spiritual Gifts – and how we should desire them to better serve our God

# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

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# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## The Keirsey Temperament Sorter

This test is designed to determine what your basic Personality Type is.

For each question, circle the letter that **BEST** describes your answer.

Because there are only two choices, some questions may seem to offer equal choices for answers. *Trust your instincts!*

- 1) At a party do you
  - a) interact with many, including strangers
  - b) interact with few, known to you
- 2) Are you more
  - a) realistic than speculative
  - b) speculative than realistic
- 3) Is it worse to
  - a) have your "head in the clouds"
  - b) be "stuck in a rut"
- 4) Are you more impressed by
  - a) principles
  - b) emotions
- 5) Are you more drawn toward the
  - a) convincing
  - b) touching
- 6) Do you prefer to work
  - a) to deadlines
  - b) just "whenever"
- 7) Do you tend to choose
  - a) rather carefully
  - b) somewhat impulsively
- 8) At parties do you
  - a) stay late, with increasing energy
  - b) leave early, with decreasing energy
- 9) Are you more attracted to
  - a) sensible people
  - b) imaginative people
- 10) Are you more interested in
  - a) what is actual
  - b) what is possible
- 11) In judging others are you more swayed by
  - a) laws than circumstances
  - b) circumstances than laws
- 12) In approaching others is your inclination to be somewhat
  - a) objective
  - b) personal
- 13) Are you more
  - a) punctual
  - b) leisurely
- 14) Does it bother you more having things
  - a) incomplete
  - b) completed
- 15) In your social groups do you
  - a) keep abreast of other's happenings
  - b) get behind on the news
- 16) In doing ordinary things are you more likely to
  - a) do it the usual way
  - b) do it your own way
- 17) Writers should
  - a) "say what they mean and mean what they say"
  - b) express things more by use of analogy
- 18) Which appeals to you more
  - a) consistency of thought
  - b) harmonious human relationships
- 19) Are you more comfortable in making
  - a) logical judgments
  - b) value judgments
- 20) Do you want things
  - a) settled and decided
  - b) unsettled and undecided

- 21) Would you say that you are more  
 a) serious and determined  
 b) easy-going
- 22) When phoning do you  
 a) rarely question that it will all be said  
 b) rehearse what you'll say
- 23) Facts  
 a) "speak for themselves"  
 b) illustrate principles
- 24) Are visionaries  
 a) somewhat annoying  
 b) rather fascinating
- 25) Are you more often  
 a) a cool-headed person  
 b) a warm-hearted person
- 26) Is it worse to be  
 a) unjust  
 b) merciless
- 27) Should one usually let events occur  
 a) by careful selection and choice  
 b) randomly and by chance
- 28) Do you feel better about  
 a) having purchased  
 b) having the option to buy
- 29) In company do you  
 a) initiate conversation  
 b) wait to be approached
- 30) Common sense is  
 a) rarely questionable  
 b) frequently questionable
- 31) Children often do not  
 a) make themselves useful enough  
 b) exercise their fantasy enough
- 32) In making decisions do you feel more comfortable with  
 a) standards  
 b) feelings
- 33) Are you more  
 a) firm than gentle  
 b) gentle than firm
- 34) Which is more admirable  
 a) the ability to organize and be methodical  
 b) the ability to adapt and make do
- 35) Do you put more value on the  
 a) definite  
 b) open-ended
- 36) Does new and non-routine interaction with others  
 a) stimulate and energize you  
 b) tax your reserves
- 37) Are you more frequently  
 a) a practical sort of person  
 b) a fanciful sort of person
- 38) Are you more likely to  
 a) see how others are useful  
 b) see how others see
- 39) Which is more satisfying  
 a) to discuss an issue thoroughly  
 b) to arrive at agreement on an issue
- 40) Which rules you more  
 a) your head  
 b) your heart
- 41) Are you more comfortable with work that is  
 a) contracted  
 b) done on a casual basis
- 42) Do you tend to look for  
 a) the orderly  
 b) whatever turns up
- 43) Do you prefer  
 a) many friends with brief contact  
 b) a few friends with more lengthy contact
- 44) Do you go more by  
 a) facts  
 b) principles
- 45) Are you more interested in  
 a) production and distribution  
 b) design and research
- 46) Which is more of a compliment  
 a) "there is a very logical person"  
 b) "there is a very sentimental person"
- 47) Do you value in yourself more that you are  
 a) unwavering  
 b) devoted
- 48) Do you more often prefer the  
 a) final and unalterable statement  
 b) tentative and preliminary statement
- 49) Are you more comfortable  
 a) after a decision  
 b) before a decision
- 50) Do you  
 a) speak easily and long with strangers  
 b) find little to say to strangers

- 51) Are you more likely to trust your  
 a) experience  
 b) hunch
- 52) Do you feel  
 a) more practical than ingenious  
 b) more ingenious than practical
- 53) Which person is more to be complimented  
 a) one of clear reason  
 b) one of strong feeling
- 54) Are you inclined more to be  
 a) fair minded  
 b) sympathetic
- 55) Is it preferable mostly to  
 a) make sure things are arranged  
 b) just let things happen
- 56) In relationships should most things be  
 a) renegotiable  
 b) random and circumstantial
- 57) When the phone rings do you  
 a) hurry to answer it first  
 b) hope somebody else will get it
- 58) Do you prize more in yourself  
 a) a strong sense of reality  
 b) a vivid imagination
- 59) Are you drawn more to  
 a) fundamentals  
 b) overtones
- 60) Which seems the greater error  
 a) to be too passionate  
 b) to be too objective
- 61) Do you see yourself as basically  
 a) hard-headed  
 b) soft-hearted
- 62) Which situation appeals to you more  
 a) the structured and scheduled  
 b) the unstructured and unscheduled
- 63) Are you a person that is more  
 a) routinized than whimsical  
 b) whimsical than routinized
- 64) Are you more inclined to be  
 a) easy to approach  
 b) somewhat reserved
- 65) In writings do you prefer  
 a) the more literal  
 b) the more figurative
- 66) Is it harder for you to  
 a) identify with others  
 b) utilize others
- 67) Which do you wish more for yourself  
 a) clarity of reason  
 b) strength with compassion
- 68) Which is the greater fault  
 a) being indiscriminate  
 b) being critical
- 69) Do you prefer the  
 a) planned event  
 b) unplanned event
- 70) Do you tend to be more  
 a) deliberate than spontaneous  
 b) spontaneous than deliberate

Proceed to the next page when complete to chart your responses.

**DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

**The Keirsey Temperament Sorter**

Transfer your responses from the questionnaire by placing an **X** in Columns A or B.

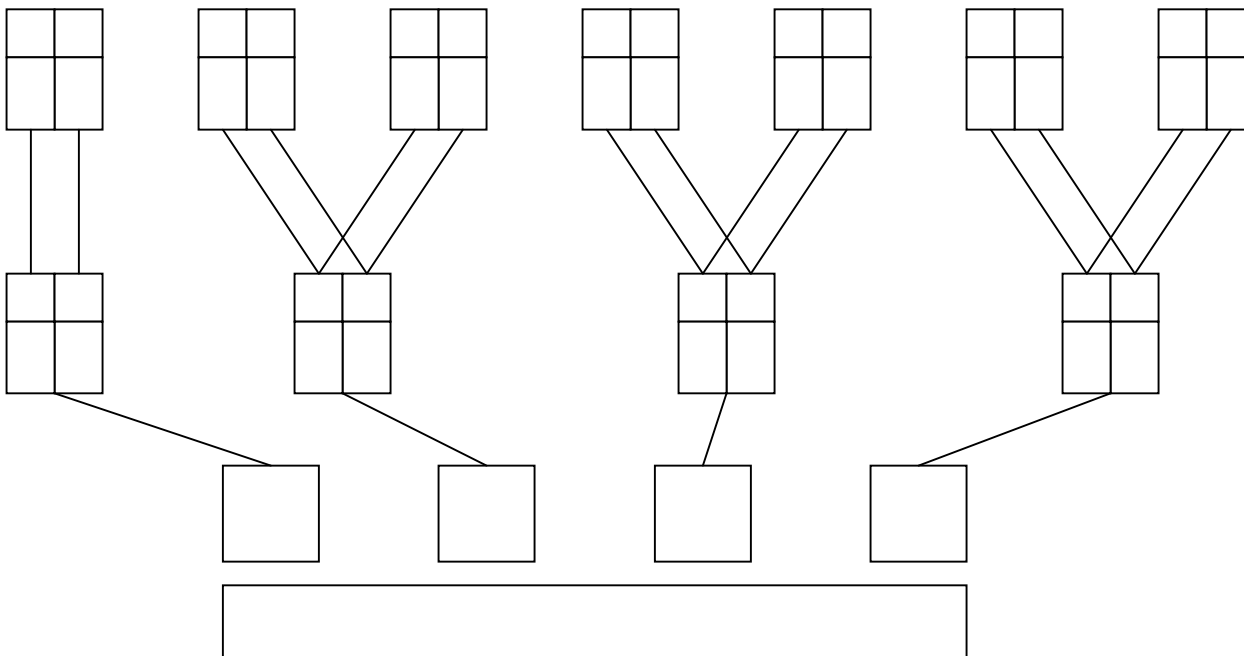
Total the number of **X**'s in each Column and write the number in the Lettered Boxes Below.

Combine the totals for the matching letter codes as indicated by the lines.

**YOUR PERSONALITY TYPE**

For each of the four pairs (EI, SN, TF, JP), record the highest scoring letter in the Corresponding box. This four-letter combination (ie., ISFJ) indicates your Personality Type.

#	A	B	#	A	B	#	A	B	#	A	B	#	A	B	#	A	B	#	A	B
1			2			3			4			5			6			7		
8			9			10			11			12			13			14		
15			16			17			18			19			20			21		
22			23			24			25			26			27			28		
29			30			31			32			33			34			35		
36			37			38			39			40			41			42		
43			44			45			46			47			48			49		
50			51			52			53			54			55			56		
57			58			59			60			61			62			63		
64			65			66			67			68			69			70		





# ***DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS***

## **Abilities Assessment**

Experts say that each person has ability in as many as 200 different skills!

Listed below are 25. Please put a check mark next to the ones that you feel that you have.

- |                          |                                 |   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Artistic Ability</b>         | Drawing, Painting, Conceptualizing, Photographing       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Classifying Ability</b>      | Systematizing Files, Books, Data, Records               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Composing Ability</b>        | Writing Music or Lyrics                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Counseling Ability</b>       | Listening, Encouraging and Guiding Others               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Counting Ability</b>         | Working with Numbers, Data or Money                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Decorating Ability</b>       | Beautifying a Setting                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Editing Ability</b>          | Proofreading or Rewriting                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Entertaining Ability</b>     | Performing, Acting, Dancing, Speaking                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Evaluating Ability</b>       | Analyzing Data and Drawing Conclusions                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Feeding Ability</b>          | Creating and Preparing Meals for Large Groups           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Interviewing Ability</b>     | Discovering What Others Are Really Like                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Landscaping Ability</b>      | Gardening, Working With Plants                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Managing Ability</b>         | Supervising People to Accomplish a Task                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Mechanical Ability</b>       | Operating Tools, Equipment and Machinery                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Planning Ability</b>         | Strategizing, Designing and Organizing                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Promoting Ability</b>        | Advertising or Promoting Events                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Public Relations Ability</b> | Handling Complaints or Questions With Care and Courtesy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Recalling Ability</b>        | Remembering or Recalling Names and Faces                |

___	<b>Recruiting Ability</b>	Enlisting and Motivating People to Get Involved
___	<b>Repairing Ability</b>	Fixing, Restoring or Maintaining Items
___	<b>Researching Ability</b>	Gathering Data and Reading
___	<b>Resourcefulness Ability</b>	Finding Inexpensive Materials or Resources
___	<b>Teaching Ability</b>	Explaining, Training, Demonstrating or Tutoring
___	<b>Welcoming Ability</b>	Conveying Warmth, Developing Rapport, Making Welcome
___	<b>Writing Ability</b>	Writing Articles, Letters, or Books

A large part of putting an **Ability** to work is whether or not you **like** to.

If you are **good** at something, **and** you have a **passion** for it,  
then you will truly be effective at it.

List below the three items from the above list that you are best at,  
and that you thoroughly enjoy doing:

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# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## The Wagner – Houts Spiritual Gifts Chart

This test is designed to measure what Spiritual Gifts you reflect in your personal life.

We have discussed 20 different Spiritual Gifts from the New Testament. Whether or not you believe that all (or any) of these Spiritual Gifts are available to believers today, this test is designed to include all 20. Do not get bogged down in statements that you do not believe apply to believers today.

*Mark to what extent the statement is true in your personal life:*

**3 = Much    2 = Some    1 = Little    0 = Not At All**

- \_\_\_ 1. I have a desire to speak direct messages from God that edify, exhort or comfort others
- \_\_\_ 2. I have enjoyed relating to a certain group of people over a long period of time, sharing personally in their successes and their failures.
- \_\_\_ 3. People have told me that I have helped them learn biblical truths in a meaningful way.
- \_\_\_ 4. I have applied spiritual truth effectively to situations in my own life.
- \_\_\_ 5. Other have told me I have helped them distinguish key and important facts of scripture.
- \_\_\_ 6. I have verbally encouraged the wavering, the troubled or the discouraged.
- \_\_\_ 7. Others have noted that I was able to see through phoniness before it was evident to other people.
- \_\_\_ 8. I find I manage money well in order to give liberally to the Lord's work.
- \_\_\_ 9. I have assisted Christian leaders to relieve them for their essential work.
- \_\_\_ 10. I have a desire to work with those who have physical or mental problems, to alleviate their suffering.
- \_\_\_ 11. I enjoy being called upon to do special jobs around the church.
- \_\_\_ 12. I have led others to a decision for salvation through faith in Christ.
- \_\_\_ 13. I would like to have an active part in starting churches in places where they do not presently exist.
- \_\_\_ 14. When in a group, I am the one others often look to for vision and direction.
- \_\_\_ 15. When I speak, people seem to listen and agree.

**3 = Much    2 = Some    1 = Little    0 = Not At All**

- \_\_\_ 16. When I am in a group that lacks organization, I tend to step in to fill the gap.
- \_\_\_ 17. Others can point to specific instances where my prayers have resulted in visible miracles.
- \_\_\_ 18. In the name of the Lord, I have been used in curing diseases instantaneously.
- \_\_\_ 19. I have spoken in tongues before.
- \_\_\_ 20. Sometimes when a person speaks in tongues, I get an idea about what God is trying to say.
- \_\_\_ 21. Through God I have revealed specific things that will happen in the future.
- \_\_\_ 22. I have enjoyed assuming the responsibility for the spiritual well-being of a particular group of Christians.
- \_\_\_ 23. I feel I can explain the New Testament teaching about the health and ministry of the Body of Christ in a relevant way.
- \_\_\_ 24. I can intuitively arrive at solutions to fairly complicated problems.
- \_\_\_ 25. I have had insights of spiritual truth that others have said helped bring them closer to God.
- \_\_\_ 26. I can effectively motivate people to get involved in ministry when it is needed.
- \_\_\_ 27. I can “see” the Spirit of God resting on certain people from time to time.
- \_\_\_ 28. My giving records show that I give considerably more than 10 percent of my income to the Lord’s work.
- \_\_\_ 29. Other people have told me that I have helped them become more effective in their ministries.
- \_\_\_ 30. I have cared for others when they have had material or physical needs.
- \_\_\_ 31. I don’t have many special skills, but I do what needs to be done around the church.
- \_\_\_ 32. I have shared joyfully how Christ has brought me to himself in a way that is meaningful to nonbelievers.
- \_\_\_ 33. I can adapt well to different surroundings and relate to others in culturally sensitive ways.
- \_\_\_ 34. I have believed God for the impossible and seen it happen in a tangible way.
- \_\_\_ 35. Other Christians have followed my leadership because they believed in me.
- \_\_\_ 36. I enjoy handling the details of organizing ideas, people, resources, and time for more effective ministry.
- \_\_\_ 37. God has used me personally to perform supernatural signs and wonders.
- \_\_\_ 38. I enjoy praying for sick people because I know that many of them will be healed as a result.

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- \_\_\_ 39. I have spoken an immediate message of God to his people in a language I have never learned.
- \_\_\_ 40. I have interpreted tongues with the result that the Body of Christ was edified, exhorted, or comforted.
- \_\_\_ 41. People have told me that I have communicated timely and urgent messages that must have come directly from the Lord.
- \_\_\_ 42. I feel unafraid of giving spiritual guidance and direction in a group of Christians.
- \_\_\_ 43. I can devote considerable time to learning new biblical truths in order to communicate them to others.
- \_\_\_ 44. When a person has a problem, I can frequently guide them to the best biblical solution.
- \_\_\_ 45. Through study or experience, I have discerned major strategies or techniques God seems to use in furthering His Kingdom.
- \_\_\_ 46. People have come to me in their afflictions or suffering, and told me that they have been helped, relieved and healed.
- \_\_\_ 47. I can tell with a fairly high degree of assurance when a person is afflicted by an evil spirit.
- \_\_\_ 48. When I am moved by an appeal to give to God's work, I usually can find the money I need to do it.
- \_\_\_ 49. I have enjoyed doing routine tasks that lead to more effective ministry by others.
- \_\_\_ 50. I enjoy visiting in hospitals and/or retirement homes, and feel I do well in such a ministry.
- \_\_\_ 51. Others have mentioned that I seem to enjoy routine tasks and do well at them.
- \_\_\_ 52. Non-Christians have noted that they feel comfortable when they are around me, and that I have a positive effect on them toward developing faith in Christ.
- \_\_\_ 53. I feel compelled to pioneer new undertakings for the purpose of sharing the Good News.
- \_\_\_ 54. Other people have told me that I had faith to accomplish what seemed impossible to them.
- \_\_\_ 55. When I set goals, other seem to accept them readily.
- \_\_\_ 56. I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.
- \_\_\_ 57. God regularly seems to do impossible things through my life.
- \_\_\_ 58. Others have told me that God healed them of an emotional problem when I ministered to them.
- \_\_\_ 59. I can speak to God in a language that I have never learned.
- \_\_\_ 60. I have prayed that I may interpret if someone begins speaking in tongues.
- \_\_\_ 61. I sometimes have a strong sense of what God wants to say to people in response to a particular situation.
- \_\_\_ 62. I have helped fellow believers by guiding them to relevant portions of the Bible and praying with them.

**3 = Much    2 = Some    1 = Little    0 = Not At All**

- 63. I feel I can communicate biblical truths to others and see resulting changes in knowledge, attitudes, values, or conduct.
- 64. Some people indicate that I have perceived and applied biblical truth to specific needs of fellow believers.
- 65. I study and read quite a bit in order to learn new biblical truths.
- 66. I have a desire to effectively counsel the perplexed, the guilty or addicted.
- 67. I can recognize whether a person's teaching is from God or human origin.
- 68. I am so confident that God will meet my needs that I give to him sacrificially and consistently.
- 69. When I do things behind the scenes and other are helped, I am joyful.
- 70. People call on me to help those who are less fortunate.
- 71. I prefer being active and doing something rather than just sitting around talking or reading or listening to a speaker.
- 72. I am surprised when others don't seem to share their faith with unbelievers as much as I do.
- 73. I am able to orchestrate or oversee several church ministries.
- 74. There have been times when I have felt sure I knew God's specific will for the future growth of His work, even when others have not been sure.
- 75. When I join a group, others seem to back off and expect me to take leadership.
- 76. I am able to give directions to others without using persuasion to get them to accomplish a task.
- 77. People have told me that I was God's instrument that brought supernatural change in the lives or circumstances.
- 78. I have prayed for others and physical healing has actually occurred.
- 79. When I give a public message in tongues, I expect it to be interpreted.
- 80. I have interpreted tongues in a way that seemed to bless others.
- 81. I sometimes feels that I know exactly what God wants to do in ministry at a specific point in time.
- 82. People have told me that I have helped them be restored to the Ecclesia.
- 83. Studying the Bible and sharing my insights with others is very satisfying for me.
- 84. I have felt an unusual presence of God and personal confidence when important decisions needed to be made.
- 85. I have the ability to discover new truths for myself through reading or observing situations firsthand.
- 86. I have urged others to seek a biblical solution to their affliction or suffering.

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- \_\_\_ 87. I can tell whether a person speaking in tongues is genuine.
- \_\_\_ 88. I have been willing to maintain a lower standard of living in order to benefit God's work.
- \_\_\_ 89. When I serve the Lord, I really don't care who gets the credit.
- \_\_\_ 90. I would enjoy spending time with a lonely, shut-in person or someone in prison.
- \_\_\_ 91. I respond cheerfully when asked to do a job, even if it seems menial.
- \_\_\_ 92. I am attracted to nonbelievers because of my desire to win them to Christ.
- \_\_\_ 93. God has worked through me in miraculous ways and my ministry efforts have been generally fruitful.
- \_\_\_ 94. Others have told me that I am a person of unusual vision, and I agree.
- \_\_\_ 95. When I am in charge, things seem to run smoothly.
- \_\_\_ 96. I have enjoyed bearing responsibility for the success of a particular task within my church.
- \_\_\_ 97. In the name of the Lord, I have been able to recover sight to the blind.
- \_\_\_ 98. When I pray for the sick, either they or I feel sensations of tingling or warmth.
- \_\_\_ 99. When I speak in tongues, I believe it is edifying to the Lord's Body.
- \_\_\_ 100. I have interpreted tongues in such a way that the message appeared directly from God.

Proceed to the next page when complete to chart your responses.

# **DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

## The Wagner – Houts Spiritual Gifts Chart

In the grid below, enter the numerical value of each of your responses next to the Number of the corresponding statements from the questionnaire.

Then add up the five numbers that you have recorded in each row and place the sum in the Total Column.

Numerical Value of Your Answers					TOTAL	Spiritual Gift	
1	21	41	61	81		15	Prophecy
2	22	42	62	82		17	Shepherding
3	23	43	63	83		18	Teaching
4	24	44	64	84		20	Wisdom
5	25	45	65	85		11	Knowledge
6	26	46	66	86		4	Exhortation
7	27	47	67	87		3	Discernment of Spirits
8	28	48	68	88		7	Giving
9	29	49	69	89		9	Helps
10	30	50	70	90		13	Mercy
11	31	51	71	91		16	Service
12	32	52	72	92		5	Evangelism
13	33	53	73	93		2	Apostleship
14	34	54	74	94		6	Faith
15	35	55	75	95		12	Leadership
16	36	56	76	96		1	Administration
17	37	57	77	97		14	Miracles
18	38	58	78	98		8	Healing
19	39	59	79	99		19	Tongues
20	40	60	80	100		10	Interpretation

Now list the three Spiritual Gifts that you scored highest in:

\_\_\_\_\_

These are the areas that God has blessed you in. These are the areas in which you should serve others, and thereby serve God.



# ***DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS***

## **Putting My Personality and Abilities To Work for My Lord**

### **Who I Am**

The Personality Test told me that I am :

\_\_\_\_\_

### **What I Like To Do**

The Abilities Assessment told me that I enjoy:

\_\_\_\_\_

### **What God Has Given Me**

The Spiritual Gifts Chart told me that God has blessed me with:

\_\_\_\_\_

### **WHO I WANT TO BE!**

The purpose of this class, (and ALL Bible Study), is Personal Spiritual Growth. Through prayer and meditation I am going to commit to pursuing the following Spiritual Gifts:

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## **DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

***“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1

• Romans 12:6-15

- 6) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
- 7) Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
- 8) Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.
- 9) Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.
- 10) Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;
- 11) Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;
- 12) Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;
- 13) Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.
- 14) Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.
- 15) Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 7:7

- 7) For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:1-12

- 1) Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.
- 2) Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led.
- 3) Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.
- 4) Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- 5) And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
- 6) And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.
- 7) But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

- 8) For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
- 9) To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;
- 10) To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:
- 11) But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.
- 12) For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:28-31

- 28) And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.
- 29) Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles?
- 30) Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?
- 31) But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1-3

- 1) Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.
- 2) For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.
- 3) But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:12

- 12) For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;
- 13) Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;
- 14) And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.
- 15) Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:13-16

- 13) Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.
- 14) Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.
- 15) Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.
- 16) Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:10-11

- 10) As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
- 11) If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

• Ephesians 4:7-12

- 7) But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.
- 8) Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.
- 9) (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?)
- 10) He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)
- 11) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- 12) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

## Twenty Spiritual Gifts

There are more than **20** Spiritual Gifts mentioned in the Bible. This is a brief list of 20 Spiritual Gifts defined in Scripture.

This is a brief summary, so please refer to your detailed Study Notes for more information.

Spiritual Gift	Meaning	Definition	Key Verses
1. Administration	To pilot or steer a ship	The ability to understand what makes an organization function, and to plan and execute procedures that accomplish the goals of the organization	Acts 6:1-7 Exodus 18:13-26
2. Apostleship	To be sent with a message	The ability to start and oversee the development of new Ecclesias	1 Cor. 9:1-2 Luke 9:1-6
3. Discernment of Spirits	To separate or make a distinction, to differentiate	The ability to distinguish between the truth and error. It is often able to discern the spirits, differentiating between good and evil, right and wrong	1 John 4:1-2 Acts 5:1-4 Matt 16:21-23 Mark 2:6-8
4. Exhortation	To come along side of	The ability to present the truth in a way that comforts, strengthens and urges those to action who are discouraged or wavering in their faith	Acts 11:22-24 Acts 15:30-32 Titus 1:7-9
5. Evangelism	To bring good news	The ability to effectively communicate the gospel to unbelievers so that they respond in faith and move toward discipleship	Acts 8:26-40 Luke 19:1-10 2 Tim 4:5
6. Faith	To trust, to have confidence, or to believe	The ability to act on God's promises with confidence and unwavering belief in God's ability to fulfill His promises	Heb. 11:8-12 Romans 4:18-21
7. Giving	To give part of, or to share	The ability to contribute money and resources to the work of the Lord with cheerfulness and liberality. Not asking, "How much money do I need to give to God?", but, "How much money do I need to live on?"	2 Cor. 8:1-7 Luke 21:1-4 Malachi 3:10
8. Healing	To restore instantaneously	The ability to be God's means of restoring people to good health	Acts 3:1-16 Mark 2:1-2
9. Helps	To take the place of someone	The ability to accomplish the practical and necessary tasks which free-up, support, and meet the needs of others	Romans 16:1-2 Philemon 1:9-13
10. Interpretation	To translate or interpret	The ability to make known to the body of Christ the message of one who is speaking in tongues	1 Cor 14:26-28

11. Knowledge	To know	The ability to bring truth to the Ecclesia through a biblical insight	2 Peter 1:1-8 James 3:13 Col. 1:10
12. Leadership	To stand before	The ability to cast vision, motivate and direct people to harmoniously accomplish the purposes of God	Nehemiah 1 Samuel 17 Isaiah 55:1-4
13. Mercy	To have compassion	The ability to cheerfully and practically help those who are suffering or are in need with compassion moved to action	Mark 10:46-52 Luke 10:25-37
14. Miracles	To do powerful deeds	The ability to authenticate the message of God through supernatural interventions which glorify Him	Acts 3:1-16 Acts 12:5-7
15. Prophecy	To speak before	The ability to reveal truth and proclaim it in a timely and relevant manner for understanding, correction, repentance and edification. There may be immediate or future implications.	2 Peter 1:19-21 Isaiah 58 1 Cor. 14:3
16. Service	To serve	The ability to perform practical tasks which directly bless and minister to others physical, emotional and spiritual needs	Acts 9:36 Acts 6:1-6 Gal. 5:13-14
17. Shepherding	To shepherd a flock	The ability to nurture, care for, and guide people toward on-going spiritual maturity and becoming like Christ	John 10:1-8 2 Cor. 12:11-21
18. Teaching	To instruct	The ability to understand, clearly explain, and apply the Word of God, causing the listeners to strive towards more Christlike lives	Acts 18:24-28 Colossians 3:16
19. Tongues	Tongue or language	The ability to speak, worship, or pray in a language unknown to the speaker.	1 Cor. 14:32-33 Acts 2:1-11
20. Wisdom	To apply truth practically	The ability to apply spiritual truth effectively to meet a need in a specific situation	1 Cor. 2:1-8 Eph. 1:15-17

Obviously all of these Spiritual Gifts don't apply to all of us.

Some of these Spiritual Gifts don't even apply to us at all (in this dispensation.)

**But, Paul instructs us to**

*“earnestly desire and zealously cultivate the greatest, the best, and the higher gifts.”*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:31 (Amplified Bible)

We must concentrate on putting our personalities and abilities to work for our Lord, and continue to pray for God to work within us to develop more and better abilities for us to use in His service.

# ***DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS***

## **Understanding the Spiritual Gifts**

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# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”*

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1

- The “One Body” idea is right in the middle of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12...
  - No matter what gift a person has, you shouldn’t exclude them
- In verse 28 he states an order... First, Second, Third...
  - But, then he tells us to “earnestly desire the better gifts”
- We are not to criticize OTHERS gifts, but we are to develop ourselves to the fullest
  - A good principle... Not demanding much of others, but a lot of ourselves
- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14
- Paul just finished writing the “Love Chapter”
- He says, *“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”*
- We have two options available to us:
  - This entire chapter (nay, several chapters in the New Testament) don’t apply to us
  - OR, we are to come to understand what Spiritual Gifts are and use them in our lives
- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:1-13
- There are several meanings to the term “Spiritual Gifts”
  - In one sense they are spiritual abilities that God *gives* to us.
  - Once we receive a spiritual gift from God, we are called to turn around and *give* it to others. Not in the sense of giving them the ability to do what we do, but in giving them the blessing of our gift.
  - A third level to the term “spiritual gifts” is what it *gives* us as it is being used.
- Romans 12:4-15
- There are two things that make up “who we are”
  - Our Personalities

- Our Abilities

• God has given us these:

- Some at Our Natural Birth
- Some at Our Spiritual Birth – When we are Born Again of the Spirit

• John 3:5-8

- 5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- 6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- 7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
- 8) The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

• The Ones that we receive at our Spiritual Birth are called Spiritual Gifts

- Our “Natural Abilities” are “God Given Gifts”
- Our “Developed Abilities” are influenced by the Spirit of God at work in our lives

• Some are more Miraculous than others...

But, ALL are from God!

• The Purpose of our Spiritual Gifts is:

*“...whoever wants to be greatest among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

- Matthew 20:26-28

• 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:7-11

• This study will examine:

- 1) Our Personalities – and how “who we are” affects “what we do”
- 2) Our Abilities – and how what we do best is influenced by what we like best
- 3) Our Spiritual Gifts – and how we should desire them to better serve our God

