

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>PROPHECY</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of prophecy?</p> <p>(Peter)</p> <p>Love without hypocrisy</p> <p>Abhor evil</p> <p>Cling to good</p> <p>What basic principle does the Prophet most need to exercise?</p> <p><u>Responsibility</u>- Special need for a clear conscience</p> <p>Questions to ask-</p> <p>Do I have all the facts?</p> <p>Do I have to make a decision right now?</p>	<p>Need to express themselves</p> <p>Quick impressions of _____ _____ to dishonesty</p> <p>Desire for _____ so sin is punished and the sinner realizes they have sinned</p> <p>Open about their own _____ to prompt others to do the same.</p> <p>Wholeheartedly involved</p> <p>Loyal to the truth vs. loyalty to _____</p> <p>Willing to _____ for right</p> <p>Persuasive in _____ truth</p> <p>Depends on scriptural truth to validate _____</p> <p>Direct , frank, _____ speaking</p> <p>Concerned for the reputation and programs of God</p> <p>Eager for others to point out their _____</p>	<p>Exposing sin or problems without restoring the one who has erred</p> <p>Jumping to conclusions- entertaining _____</p> <p>React _____ to sinners</p> <p>Being unforgiving</p> <p>Condemning themselves</p> <p>Being Impetuous</p> <p>Cutting off people who have _____</p> <p>Lacking tactfulness in rebukes</p> <p>Dwelling on the negative</p> <p>Interest in groups may appear to be disinterest in _____</p> <p>May use gimmicks for effect</p> <p>Public boldness and strict standards may hinder intimate personal _____</p>

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF PROPHECY ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF PETER

CHARACTERISTICS

1. The need to express thoughts and ideas verbally, especially regarding right and wrong.
2. The tendency to make quick judgments on what is seen and heard, and to speak up quickly.
3. An amazing ability to sense when someone or something is not what it appears to be and to react harshly to dishonesty.
4. A desire to reject those who offend so that justice will be done and others will be warned.
5. An openness about personal faults and failures and an honesty about himself as well as others.
6. A tendency to be impulsive in actions and to be wholeheartedly involved in whatever is done.
7. A tendency to be painfully direct when correcting friends.
8. A desire to give open evidences of loyalty and total commitment.
9. A willingness to suffer for doing what is right.
10. An ability to be very persuasive in defining what is right and what is wrong.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Peter spoke more often than any other disciple in the Gospels and became the spokesman of the early church (Acts 2:4; 3:12).

Peter spoke first more than any other disciple (Matthew 14:28; 15:15; 16:16; 17:4; 19:27; 26:33; John 6:68; 13:6).

Peter's condemnation of the deception of Ananias and Sapphira resulted in their death (Acts 5:3-10).

Peter was reluctant to forgive his offender and asked how long he had to put up with him (Matthew 18:21).

Peter fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord" (Luke 5:8).

Peter was eager to walk on water (Matthew 14:28). He forbade Jesus to wash his feet, then wanted Him to wash his hands and head (John 13:6-10).

Peter rebuked Jesus for a course of action which Peter did not think was right for Him to take (Mark 8:31-33).

Peter assured Jesus that he would never deny Him, and he defended Jesus by cutting off the ear of the high priest's servant (Matthew 26:33; John 18:10).

Peter rejoiced in being counted worthy to suffer shame for Jesus when he was beaten for obeying God rather than man (Acts 5:29-42).

God brought conviction to thousands as Peter pointed out, "... ye have taken [Jesus], and by wicked hands have crucified and slain [Him]..." (Acts 2:14-47).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>SERVING</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of serving? (Timothy)</p> <p>Kind affection</p> <p>Brotherly love</p> <p>Honor others</p> <p>What basic principle does the Server most need to exercise?</p> <p>Authority</p> <p>Questions for Servers-</p> <p>What is proper submission to authority?</p> <p>How may I be under God's authority?</p>	<p>See and meet _____ needs</p> <p>Free others to achieve</p> <p>Disregard for _____</p> <p>Difficulty in saying "No"</p> <p>Alert to likes and dislikes</p> <p>Need for approval and _____</p> <p>Likes short range projects</p> <p>Put extra touches on jobs</p> <p>Meets needs _____</p>	<p>Giving unrequested help</p> <p>Letting "things" be too _____</p> <p>Working beyond _____ limitations</p> <p>Neglecting God-given _____</p> <p>Reacting to overlooked needs</p> <p>Resenting lack of _____</p> <p>Working people around their projects and schedules</p> <p>Being frustrated with time limits _____</p> <p>With God's discipline _____</p> <p>Eagerness in Serving may prompt suspicions of _____</p> <p>May appear to reject being _____</p>

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF SERVING ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF TIMOTHY

CHARACTERISTICS

1. An ability to see practical needs and a desire to meet them.
2. A joy in serving when it frees others to do more important things, not just to keep busy.
3. A tendency to disregard personal health and comfort in serving others.
4. A difficulty in saying "no" resulting in a variety of involvements and a tendency to get sidetracked.
5. A special enjoyment in providing for physical needs and comforts. An ability to remember likes and dislikes.
6. A need for appreciation to confirm that service is necessary and satisfactory. A desire for clear instructions (without time limits).
7. A strong desire to be with others, thus providing more serving opportunities.
8. An enjoyment of short-range projects and a tendency to become frustrated with long-range responsibilities.
9. A tendency to feel inadequate and unqualified for spiritual leadership.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Timothy's desire to meet needs is confirmed by Paul: "For I have no man like-minded, who will naturally care for your state" (Philippians 2:20).

Timothy served Paul so that Paul could carry out his ministry. He served Paul "as a son with the father" (Philippians 2:22).

Timothy's physical ailments were revealed when Paul wrote: "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities" (I Timothy 5:23).

Timothy was told twice by Paul not to get sidetracked: "Do thy diligence to come shortly unto me . . . Do thy diligence to come before winter" (II Timothy 4:9,21).

Timothy was instructed to bring Paul his cloak, books, and especially the parchments (II Timothy 4:13).

Timothy was given more instruction and praise by Paul than any other assistant (I and II Timothy).

Timothy is almost always working with others (Acts 16:2; 17:14-15; 18:5; 19:22; 20:4).

Timothy was urged to maintain the endurance of a soldier and to continue in the calling that he was given (I Timothy 4:16; II Timothy 2:3).

Timothy was reassured by Paul that he was qualified by his ordination and by the training of his mother, grandmother, and Paul (I Timothy 4:14; II Timothy 1:5; II Timothy 3:10-14).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>TEACHING</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of teaching?</p> <p>(Luke)</p> <p>Diligent research and study</p> <p>Fervent spirit</p> <p>Serving God</p> <p>What basic principle does the Teacher most need to exercise?</p> <p>Meditation</p> <p>Questions for the Teacher-</p> <p>How do I bring out the deeper hidden truths of God that is not gained by learning intellectual truth?</p>	<p>Need to validate _____</p> <p>Checks out other teachers</p> <p>Relies on established _____</p> <p>Presents truth systematically</p> <p>Gathers many facts- _____</p> <p>Requires _____, details,</p> <p>Uneasy with subjective _____</p> <p>Persevere with accepted teachers</p> <p>Clarify misunderstandings</p> <p>Believes their gift is _____ to others</p> <p>Test the knowledge of those teaching</p> <p>Avoids illustrations from _____ sources</p> <p>Has greater joy in research than in _____</p>	<p>Becoming proud of knowledge</p> <p>Despising lack of credentials</p> <p>Depending on _____ Reasoning</p> <p>Criticizing _____</p> <p>Application- believe actual information is enough</p> <p>Showing off research skills</p> <p>Rejecting Scriptural presuppositions That must be accepted by _____</p> <p>Putting the mind above the Holy Spirit- not spending quality time in _____ study and prayer</p> <p>Taking teachings to extremes</p> <p>Arguing over _____ points</p> <p>Seems to neglect _____ applications</p>

3. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF TEACHING ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF LUKE

CHARACTERISTICS

1. The need to validate truth; to certify statements which have been made by others.
2. The tendency to validate new truth by established systems of truth.
3. The prompting to give teaching credentials before speaking and to get them from others before listening.
4. The desire to present truth in a systematic sequence.
5. A delight in researching and reporting as many facts on a subject as possible.
6. An emphasis on the importance and accuracy of reporting.
7. An alertness to factual details which are not noticed or mentioned by others.
8. A tendency to remain silent until information has been heard, observed, and discussed.
9. A need to exercise diligence and endurance.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Luke's purpose in writing was "That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed" (Luke 1:4).

Luke not only relates Christ's words to Old Testament prophecies, but relates his writings to other Gospel accounts (Luke 1:1-3).

Luke emphasized that he was an eyewitness, a qualified minister, and "had perfect understanding of all things from the very first" (Luke 1:2-3).

Luke emphasized his chronological approach: "... to set forth in order ... from the beginning ... to write unto thee in order" (Luke 1:1-3).

Luke's Gospel is the longest Gospel. It includes material left out of other Gospels. He emphasizes the completeness of his work (Acts 1:1).

Luke gives precise descriptions of events, conversations, circumstances, and physical conditions, such as noting a "great fever" not just a fever (Luke 4:38).

Luke's account is filled with more details of names, offices, cities, dates, events, and side points than the other Gospels.

Luke is conspicuous in the Gospel by his silence; none of his statements are recorded.

Luke demonstrated his faithful determination by remaining with Paul in prison until the end: "Only Luke is with me" (II Timothy 4:10-11).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>EXHORTING</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of exhortation?</p> <p>(Paul)</p> <p>Rejoice in hope</p> <p>Patient in tribulation</p> <p>Constant readiness for prayer</p> <p>What basic principle does the exhorter most need to exercise?</p> <p>God's design</p> <p>Questions for the Exhorter- Do you accept yourself?</p> <p>Are you ready to help others understand God's plans?</p>	<p>Committed to _____ growth</p> <p>Able to see root problems- can discern spiritual maturity</p> <p>See steps of action toward spiritual _____</p> <p>Raising hope for _____</p> <p>Turns problems into benefits</p> <p>Desire to be "transparent"- having a clear _____</p> <p>Gain insight through _____</p> <p>Urgency to act on clear steps- desire to visualize specific achievements and precises _____</p> <p>Desire to share face to face</p> <p>Avoid systems of information tht lack practical _____</p>	<p>Keeping others waiting on them- especially their family</p> <p>Looking to themselves for _____ for solutions rather than waiting on the _____</p> <p>Being proud of visible results</p> <p>Starts projects _____ - overconfidence in self</p> <p>Treats people as projects- may appear to disregard _____</p> <p>Shares private illustrations from others without _____</p> <p>Presenting truth out of _____</p> <p>Sets unrealistic goals</p> <p>Gives up on uncooperative _____</p> <p>May appear to take scripture our of context in _____ applications</p>

4. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF EXHORTATION ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF PAUL

CHARACTERISTICS

1. A motivation to urge people to their full spiritual maturity in Christ.
2. An ability to discern where a person is in spiritual growth and to speak on that level.
3. A desire to give precise steps of action in urging people toward spiritual maturity.
4. A drive to explain truth with logical reasoning in order to make it accepted.
5. An ability to visualize spiritual achievement for people and to use this to motivate them to action.
6. A desire for face to face discussion in order to determine and insure a positive response.
7. An ability to identify with people of different types and backgrounds in order to gain a wider hearing.
8. A motivation to bring harmony between diverse groups of Christians, and an awareness that harmony is basic to spiritual maturity.
9. An ability to welcome personal tribulation as a chief motivator of spiritual growth.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Paul's goal was to "present every man perfect in Christ Jesus" (Colossians 1:28-29).

Paul saw the Corinthians as spiritual infants: "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ" (I Corinthians 3:1).

Paul's writings are filled with practical counsel and precise steps of action on how to grow spiritually.

Paul's writings on the resurrection in I Corinthians 15 are classic in logical thinking. Reasoning was his basic method when dealing with the Jews, the Greeks, King Agrippa, and others (Acts 18:4, 26:28).

Paul was a master in picturing spiritual goals for his workers and his churches. He reinforced goals by the example of his own life (Philippians 3:17).

Paul's longing to see his fellow-believers was constantly reaffirmed (I Thessalonians 2:17; 3:10; II Timothy 1:4). He used personal conferences extensively (I Thessalonians 2:11-12).

Paul explained, "... I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some" (I Corinthians 9:19-23).

Paul worked constantly to resolve conflicts and divisions between individuals, churches, and groups (I Corinthians 3:3,4; Philippians 2:2). The money he raised united Jews and Gentiles (II Corinthians 9:12-14).

Paul gloried in his infirmities, because he saw that they brought Christ's power and a far greater weight of glory (II Corinthians 1:5; 4:17, 12:9).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>GIVING</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of giving?</p> <p>(Matthew)</p> <p>Giving to needs of Christians</p> <p>Practice Hospitality</p> <p>What basic principle does the Giver most need to exercise?</p> <p>Ownership-</p> <p>Questions for the Giver-</p> <p>Do you accept that all you have belongs to God?</p> <p>Will you yield your rights to God?</p>	<p>Able to see _____ and wise investments</p> <p>Invest self with gift- needs assurance the gift will be used well.</p> <p>Desires to give high quality _____</p> <p>Hopes gift answer is an _____ prayer</p> <p>Desires to give secretly, wanting people to look to _____ for provision</p> <p>Concern that _____ will corrupt, gives _____ so dependence is on God not the giver</p> <p>Exercises personal thriftiness, looking for the best buy and the highest _____</p> <p>Using gifts to multiply giving matched gifts as a _____ for others to give</p> <p>Confirms amount with counsel from his _____</p> <p>Alertness to valid needs which he fears others will _____</p>	<p>Hoarding resources for self- lacking fear of _____</p> <p>Using gift to _____ people</p> <p>Forcing higher standard- luxurious gifts may cause dissatisfaction with what the receiver has already</p> <p>Feeling guilty about personal _____, not sure he is in God's will</p> <p>Rejecting pressure appeals, fails to consult God</p> <p>Giving too sparingly to family, needs wise counsel from _____</p> <p>Giving to projects vs. _____</p> <p>Causes people to look to him rather than _____</p> <p>Waiting too long to give</p> <p>May appear to lack generosity</p> <p>May appear selfish by not meeting an appeal for a need.</p>

5. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF GIVING ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF MATTHEW

CHARACTERISTICS

1. A keen ability to discern wise investments in order to have more money available to give away.
2. A desire to give quietly without public notice.
3. A motivation to give as unto the Lord at His promptings, not at man's appeals.
4. A desire to give gifts which are of high quality.
5. An ability to test faithfulness and wisdom by how people handle funds.
6. A tendency to practice personal frugality. An ability to be content with the basic necessities of life.
7. An alertness to see what other people do with their money.
8. An ability to see financial needs which others tend to overlook.
9. A desire to use giving as a way to motivate others to give.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Matthew included more counsel on the wise use of money than any other Gospel writer (Matthew 6:19-20; 25:14-30).

Matthew is the only Gospel writer who emphasizes that a person should give secretly so that God can reward him openly (Matthew 6:1-4).

Matthew notes that when we give to the needs of fellow Christians which God reveals, we give to Christ (Matthew 25:35-46).

Matthew records in greater detail the costly gifts given to Jesus: gold, frankincense, myrrh, precious ointment, new sepulchre (Matthew 2:11; 26:6-13; 27:57-60).

Matthew reveals the foolishness and rebellion of those who misused what they were given (Matthew 21:33-34; 25:14-30).

Matthew had wealth and wealthy friends; however, he "left all" to follow Jesus (Luke 5:27-32).

Matthew is the only Gospel writer to explain what the religious leaders did with Judas' thirty pieces of silver and also how they paid the soldiers to lie (Matthew 27:3-8; 28:11-15).

Matthew records Christ's condemnation of the Pharisees for not supporting their aged parents (Matthew 15:3-7). He also details the fairness of paying all the laborers the same wage (Matthew 20:1-16).

Matthew was a tax collector. His job was to motivate people to give (Luke 5:29). His is the only Gospel to record Christ's condemnation of the man who was forgiven much but refused to forgive another who owed him little (Matthew 18:23-35).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>ORGANIZING</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of organization?</p> <p>(Nehemiah)</p> <p>Bless persecutors</p> <p>Bless and curse not</p> <p>What basic principle does the Organizer most need to exercise?</p> <p>Suffering-</p> <p>Questions for the Organizer-</p> <p>Will you suffer for doing right?</p> <p>Will you fully forgive those who harm you?</p>	<p>Able to visualize final results and clarify _____ goals</p> <p>Need loyalty in _____ Would rather have fewer helpers he can depend on</p> <p>Ability to delegate, but know what not to _____</p> <p>Withstands reactions to tasks in order to get the task done</p> <p>Makes jobs look easy, breaking down tasks into doable _____</p> <p>Very alert to _____, knows that small details can make a large _____</p> <p>Completes tasks quickly, wanting the proper person for each part of the job</p> <p>Able to be _____, the final goal is clear from the beginning making decisive decisions</p> <p>Completion involves _____</p> <p>Organizes that for which he is _____</p> <p>Aware of resources available to complete a task</p> <p>May stand on the sidelines until those in charge turn over responsibility to him</p>	<p>Views people as resources, thinks they must earn the right _____</p> <p>Builds loyalty with _____</p> <p>Uses delegation to avoid his own work</p> <p>Being unresponsive to _____ while being callous or _____</p> <p>Puts projects ahead of people, not giving good explanations</p> <p>Overlooks worker's serious _____ and character flaws to get the job done</p> <p>Failure to explain or praise, leaves people feeling used</p> <p>Forcing _____ on others by coercion</p> <p>Loses interest in finished job</p> <p>Lack of contentment with life</p>

6. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF ADMINISTRATION ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF NEHEMIAH

CHARACTERISTICS

1. An ability to visualize the final result of a major undertaking.
2. An ability to break down major goals into smaller, achievable tasks.
3. An ability to know what resources are available and needed to reach a goal.
4. A tendency to remove himself from distracting details in order to focus on the ultimate goal.
5. A willingness to endure reaction from insiders and outsiders in order to reach an ultimate goal.
6. A need for loyalty and confidence from those who are being directed and served.
7. An ability to know what he should and should not delegate to others.
8. An ability to inspire and encourage workers by cheerfulness, approval, praise, and challenges.
9. A joy and fulfillment in seeing all the parts come together in a finished product.

ILLUSTRATIONS

Nehemiah visualized the goal of removing the "great affliction and reproach" of God's people by rebuilding the walls (Nehemiah 1:2-3; 2:5).

Nehemiah accomplished the huge task of rebuilding the walls by having many groups working on smaller sections (Nehemiah 3:1-32).

Nehemiah requested from the king resources needed to rebuild the walls: a certain time, letters of introduction, and timber (Nehemiah 2:6-8).

Nehemiah did not get involved in the building itself but removed obstacles which would hinder the workers, such as removing financial pressures (Nehemiah 5:1-13).

Nehemiah had opposition from within and without in his efforts to rebuild the walls (Nehemiah 4:8-18).

Nehemiah brought a great assembly of people against the nobles and rulers who discouraged the people. He required oaths of cooperation from them (Nehemiah 5:1-13).

Nehemiah delegated the work on the walls, but he retained the responsibility of dealing with the enemies and guarding the walls (Nehemiah 4:13).

Nehemiah had a cheerful spirit (Nehemiah 2:1). He was skillful in challenging and encouraging his workers (Nehemiah 4:14).

Nehemiah expressed his joy in the completed task by appointing singers and uniting the people in a revival and celebration (Nehemiah 7:1-2; 8:1-18).

GIFT	CHARACTERISTICS	CARNAL USES
<p>MERCY</p> <p>Who in Scripture best illustrates the motivational gift of mercy?</p> <p>(John)</p> <p>Weep with</p> <p>Rejoice with</p> <p>What basic principle does the Mercy need to exercise?</p> <p>Moral Freedom</p> <p>Question for Mercy-</p> <p>What will I do to maintain moral purity?</p>	<p>Deeply loyal to _____</p> <p>Need for deep friendships</p> <p>Empathizes with hurting people</p> <p>Decisions based on _____</p> <p>Deeply sensitive to loved ones, easily hurt</p> <p>Attract people in _____</p> <p>Desires to remove hurts</p> <p>Measures _____ by physical closeness</p> <p>Attracted to prophets</p> <p>Feels joy or distress in individuals or groups</p> <p>Has greater concern for mental distress than physical issues</p> <p>Avoids firmness unless he sees it will bring _____</p> <p>Able to discern sincere motives</p> <p>Closes himself off from those who are insincere or _____</p>	<p>Taking up offenses for one who is being hurt by another _____</p> <p>Becoming possessive- monopolizing time</p> <p>Tolerates evil- they are not seeing people clearly</p> <p>Fails to be firm, or appears to be _____</p> <p>Leans on emotion vs. _____</p> <p>Defrauding of opposite sex or may be _____</p> <p>Reacting to God's _____, why do good people suffer</p> <p>Failing to show deference to _____ of others</p> <p>Cutting off insensitive _____</p> <p>Appears to be guided by emotion rather than _____</p> <p>May appear to be hard to know</p>

7. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GIFT OF MERCY ILLUSTRATED FROM THE LIFE OF JOHN

CHARACTERISTICS

1. An ability to sense genuine love. A greater vulnerability to deeper and more frequent hurts from the lack of love.
2. A need for deep friendships in which there is mutual commitment.
3. A tendency to react harshly when intimate friends are rejected.
4. A greater concern over mental joy or distress than physical concerns.
5. A tendency to attract people who are having mental and emotional distress.
6. A need to measure acceptance by physical closeness and quality time together.
7. A desire to remove the causes of hurts rather than to look for benefits from them.
8. A tendency to avoid decisions and firmness unless they will eliminate greater hurts.
9. A tendency to be attracted to those with the spiritual gift of prophecy.

ILLUSTRATIONS

John's teachings and personal relationships illustrate that his primary focus was on love. He uses the word "love" more than any other disciple (Gospel of John; Epistles of John).

John established a very close relationship with Christ and with Peter. He often refers to himself as the disciple "whom Jesus loved" (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7; 21:20).

John and James asked Christ if they should call down fire from heaven and consume the Samaritans who rejected Christ (Luke 9:54).

John wrote to give his readers "joy," "fellowship," "hope," "confidence," and to cast out "fear" and "torment" (I John 1:3,4; 3:2; 4:18; 5:13-14). Meeting physical needs proves love (I John 3:17).

John's deep understanding, love, and acceptance made it easy to understand why others would confide in him as Christ did during the last supper (John 13:23-26).

John sought out the closest place to Christ: "Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples . . ." (John 13:23). His need for closeness may have prompted his request to sit next to Christ in glory. (Mark 10:35-37).

John's message was to get Christians to stop hating and hurting each other (I John 3:11,15).

John was a follower until it came to denying Jesus; then he was bold and decisive (Acts 4:13; 19-20).

John spent more time with Peter than with any other disciple (Luke 22:8; Acts 3:1-11; 4:13-19; 8:14).

HOW TO USE THE IRRITATIONS FROM OTHERS TO HELP YOU DISCOVER YOUR MOTIVATIONAL GIFT

1 Ask yourself: "What do Christians do or not do that disappoints me and causes unbelievers to reject the Christian life?"



David's sin brought reproach upon God's people and gave great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme His Name. Nathan exercised his gift of prophecy in bringing David to repentance.

2 Realize that your answer to this question will be greatly influenced by your spiritual gift:

- They compromise with the world.
- They fail to demonstrate true Christian concern.
- They are substituting experience for sound doctrine.
- They are not growing to spiritual maturity.

- They are not trusting God for their finances.
- They are not accomplishing any major goals.
- They do not have genuine love for each other.

3 Determine what you can do **now** to begin resolving the problem that concerns you the most.

- Explain your understanding of the problem to God.
- Dedicate yourself to being part of the solution, whatever the cost.
- Ask God for wisdom as you read and memorize His Word daily.
- Take advantage of every little opportunity that He gives to you.
- Constantly evaluate your results in the light of God's Word and lasting fruit.

MY MOTIVATIONAL GIFT

Based upon what I have learned thus far, I believe that my motivational gift is:

I am not certain what my motivational gift is; however, I have been able to narrow it down to the following two:

UNDERSTAND THE BASIC MOTIVATION OF EACH SPIRITUAL GIFT

If each of the seven motivational gifts were represented in a family and someone dropped the dessert on the floor, here is what each one might say and why they would say it.

PROPHET

"That's what happens when you're not careful!"
(Motivation: To correct the problem.)

MERCY

"Don't feel badly. It could have happened to anyone."
(Motivation: To relieve embarrassment.)

SERVER

"Oh, let me help you clean it up."
(Motivation: To fulfill a need.)

TEACHER

"The reason that it fell is that it was too heavy on one side."
(Motivation: To discover why it happened.)

EXHORTER

"Next time, let's serve the dessert with the meal."
(Motivation: To correct the future.)

GIVER

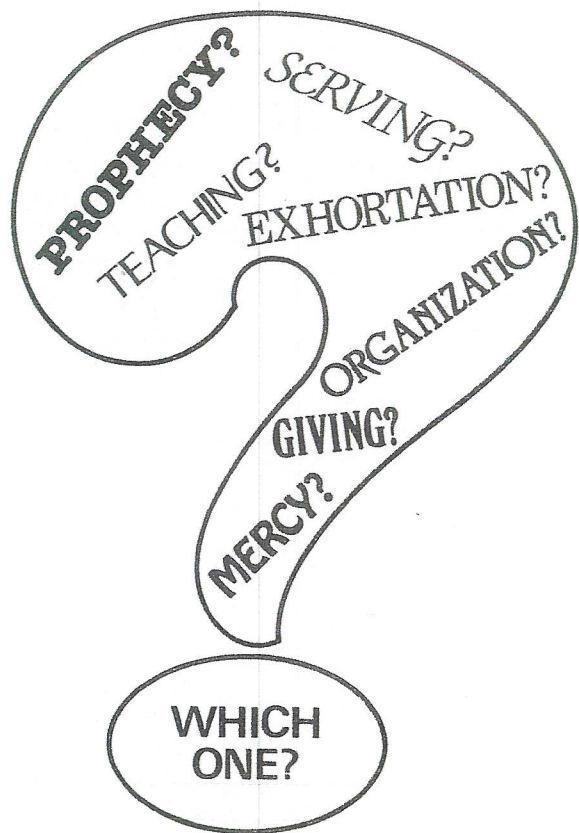
"I'll be happy to buy a new dessert."
(Motivation: To give to a tangible need.)

ORGANIZER

"Jim, would you get the mop. Sue, please help pick it up; and Mary, help me fix another dessert."
(Motivation: To achieve the immediate goal of the group.)



HOW TO USE QUESTIONS TO IDENTIFY YOUR BASIC MOTIVATION



Many Christians are confused about their motivational gift because they enjoy practicing many gifts. Use the following types of questions to help yourself analyze why you enjoy doing a certain activity. Let us suppose, for example, that you enjoy teaching a Bible class.

1. QUESTION: What would your basic motive be in teaching a Bible class?
ANSWER: To encourage people to be honest before God and others. (^ . . .)
2. QUESTION: But why do you want people to be honest with God and others?
ANSWER: So that they will not hurt each other's feelings. (^ . . .)
3. QUESTION: Why do you not want Christians to hurt each other?
ANSWER: So that they will be able to grow spiritually. (^ . . .)

4. QUESTION: Why do you want Christians to grow spiritually?
ANSWER: So that they can appreciate the true message of the Bible. (^ teacher's motivation)
5. QUESTION: Why do you want Christians to understand the true message of the Bible?
ANSWER: So that they can get their lives in order and be useful for God. (^ . . .)
6. QUESTION: Why do you want Christians to be organized for God?
ANSWER: So that they will be free to give to the Lord's work. (^ . . .)
7. QUESTION: Why do you want Christians to give to the Lord's work?
ANSWER: So that we can meet the practical needs of Christians and unbelievers. (^ . . .)

QUESTION: Why do you want to meet the practical needs of others?
ANSWER: I think that is most important.
CONCLUSION: Your gift must be serving.



SERIOUS MARRIAGE CONFLICTS ARE CAUSED WHEN ONE PARTNER FAILS TO UNDERSTAND THE MOTIVATIONAL GIFT OF THE OTHER OR WHEN ONE OR BOTH PARTNERS DEMONSTRATES THE NEGATIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF HIS OR HER SPIRITUAL GIFT.

UNDERSTAND HOW EACH GIFT RESPONDS IN A SITUATION

If seven Christians representing each of the motivational gifts visited a sick person in the hospital, here is what each one might say, based on the perspective of his gift.

SERVER

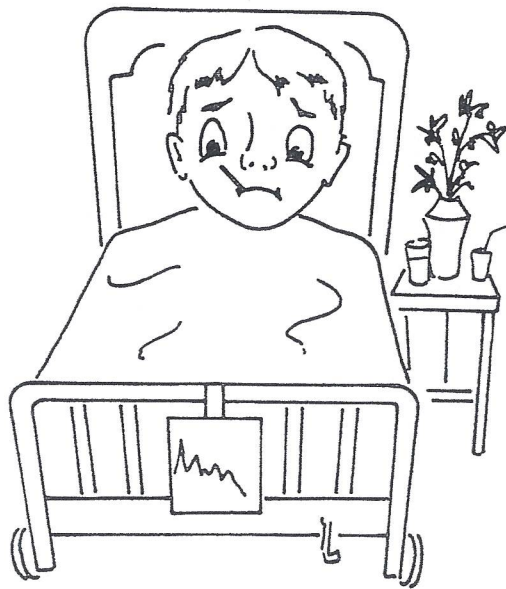
"Here's a little gift! Now, I brought your mail in, fed your dog, watered your plants, and washed your dishes."

TEACHER

"I did some research on your illness and I believe I can explain what's happening."

MERCY

"I can't begin to tell you how I felt when I learned you were so sick. How do you feel now?"



GIVER

"Do you have insurance to cover this kind of illness?"

ORGANIZER

"Don't worry about a thing. I've assigned your job to four others in the office."

EXHORTER

"How can we use what you're learning here to help others in the future?"

PROPHET

"What is God trying to say to you through this illness? Is there some sin you haven't confessed yet?"

UNDERSTAND HOW GIFTS ARE TO BE USED IN THE CHURCH

If seven Christians met together to organize the ideal church and each Christian represented a different motivational gift, here is what they would probably emphasize based on their spiritual outlook.

WHAT WE NEED IN OUR CHURCH:

PROPHET

Well-prepared sermons exposing sin, proclaiming righteousness, and warning of judgment to come.

GIVER

Generous programs of financial assistance to missionaries and other ministries.

SERVER

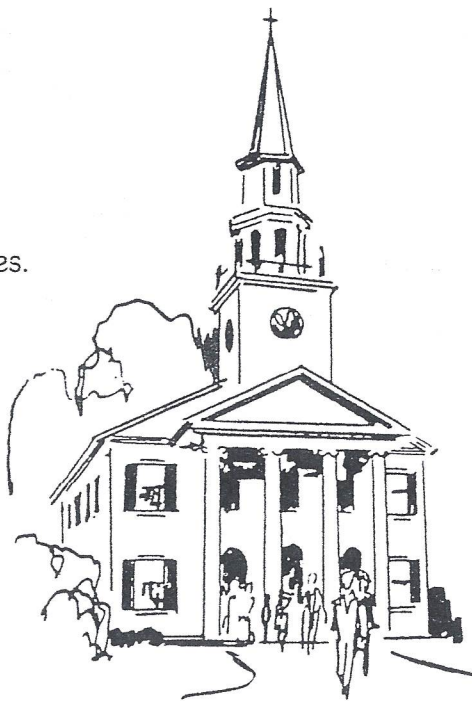
Practical assistance to every member of the church to encourage them and to help them fulfill their responsibilities.

ORGANIZER

Smooth-running organization throughout the church so that every phase will be carried out decently and in order.

TEACHER

In-depth Bible studies with special emphasis on the precise meaning of words.



EXHORTER

Personal counseling and encouragement for every member to assist them in applying Scriptural principles to their daily living.

MERCY

Special outreach and concern for the precise and varying feelings of individuals with a readiness to meet their needs.

SUMMARY

Every _____ has a spiritual gift.

These gifts may accentuate or be totally separate from natural _____.

Spiritual gifts produce spiritual, eternal achievements.

Natural talents or abilities produce temporal or worldly achievements.

There _____ in exercising your spiritual gift.

The spiritual gifts come from God and He is the source of the grace needed to exercise your gift.

_____ is defined as: God's desire and power to accomplish His will in us, through us, and around us.

By knowing your gift, _____ your gift, and allowing God's _____ to work through your life, you will make a significant _____ to the body of Christ.

It is one thing to "work for God" and quite another to be _____

My Utmost for His Highest- Oswald Chambers, June 8.

"Be determined to know more than others. If you yourself do not cut the lines that tie you to the dock, God will have to use a storm to sever them and to send you out to sea. Put everything in your life afloat upon God, going out to sea on the great swelling tide of His purpose, and your eyes will be opened. If you believe in Jesus, you are not to spend all your time in the calm waters just inside the harbor, full of joy, but always tied to the dock. You have to get out past the harbor into the great depths of God, and begin to know things for yourself— begin to have spiritual discernment.

When you know that you should do something and you do it, immediately you know more. Examine where you have become sluggish, where you began losing interest spiritually, and you will find that it goes back to a point where you did not do something you knew you should do. You did not do it because there seemed to be no immediate call to do it. But now you have no insight or discernment, and at a time of crisis you are spiritually

distracted instead of spiritually self-controlled. It is a dangerous thing to refuse to continue learning and knowing more.

The counterfeit of obedience is a state of mind in which you create your own opportunities to sacrifice yourself, and your zeal and enthusiasm are mistaken for discernment. It is easier to sacrifice yourself than to fulfill your spiritual destiny, which is stated in [Romans 12:1-2](#). It is much better to fulfill the purpose of God in your life by discerning His will than it is to perform great acts of self-sacrifice. "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice..." ([1 Samuel 15:22](#)). Beware of paying attention or going back to what you once were, when God wants you to be something that you have never been. "If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know..." ([John 7:17](#)).

Romans 12:1-2- "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is your spiritual service of worship*. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Finding and exercising our spiritual gift is fulfilling and brings joy to our lives.

Each gift is intended to work with all the others to _____ the body of Christ.

We owe a _____ of love to God.

Romans 13:8- "Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the law*."

Using your gift within the body of Christ, brings _____ to the body.

You have one motivational gift. You have the possibility of many ministry gifts.

You do your part and the Holy Spirit does His part through manifestations of His presence.

We do not seek the manifestations; we do what we are supposed to do and the result is up to God.

Each of us is supposed to perform all 7 activities described in the gifts but they will be performed through the lens of your one motivational gift.

See the illustrations-

The goal of each motivation is to free others to carry out their motivation for the good of the Church.

My Spiritual gift is _____.