

YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND THE LOCAL CHURCH

Selected passages

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Defining spiritual gifts: "Spiritual gifts are special abilities that allow me to function in the local body of Christ with ease and success. They are given to me at the moment of salvation by the Holy Spirit and each born again believer has at least one. Since it is an unconditional gift, it cannot be lost."
- B. The spiritual gifts list: *(See 1 Cor. 12:8-10, 28, 29-30; Rom. 12:6-8; Eph. 4:11)*
- C. Understanding the service gifts: "Service gifts are those gifts that minister to others behind the scenes and are rarely publicly acknowledged. Most Christians have at least one of these gifts, yet are rarely discovered because they are not as glamorous as the support or sign gifts."
- D. Understanding the support gifts: "Support gifts involve the ministry of the Scriptures. These gifts are given more authority and honor than most of the other spiritual gifts. Once again, we can see the balance of Scripture. God knew that for a church to reach any level of maturity, it would need a maintenance ministry done to existing parts while conducting an aggressive building ministry to expand and further equip the local church to treasure Jesus Christ by "reaching their world for Christ." Every church must have both a comprehensive maintenance ministry and an aggressive building ministry going on simultaneously, or it will rapidly become a dying local church."
- E. Understanding the sign gifts: "Sign gifts were super-human abilities that altered the laws of nature used in the early church to authenticate God's spokesman. They, for the most part, were no longer needed after the dispensation of the church was started and the written Word completed."
- F. Reviewing the purpose of spiritual gifts:
 - 1. To each and every week, put Jesus Christ on display at the expense of myself: *(See 1 Cor. 12:3; Eph. 4:13-15)*
 - 2. To each and every week, promote unity or to cause things that would otherwise fragment, to stick together: *(See 1 Cor. 12:24-27)*
 - a. By forcing me to take the initiative in serving others within the local church setting, each and every week.
 - b. By forcing me to have to rely on others to meet my needs both within and without my ministry in the local church, each and every week.

II. EXERCISING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT IN THE LOCAL BODY OF CHRIST:

- A. Be informed: *(See 1 Cor. 12:1; Acts 9:16)*

1. Know the gifts:

Service	Support	Sign
Administration	Apostleship	Miracles
Exhortation	Prophecy	Healing
Faith	Evangelism	Knowledge
Giving	Pastor/ teacher	Interpretation of tongues
Mercy	Teacher	Tongues
Helps		

2. Know your gifts: *(Schedule an appointment with pastor Dan to take the quiz)*

3. Know the ministries where gifts are exercised: *(See the ministry packet)*

B. Be inquisitive-In prayer ask God for His insight: *(See Gal. 1:13-18)*

1. Do I enjoy what I am doing?
2. Does it come relatively easy to me compared to others?
3. What do others say who observe me in exercising this gift?
4. Does it tend to bring others together in exercising this gift?
5. Does it challenge me to use the ability to magnify Christ in the lives of others?
6. Could I effectively exercise this ability prior to my salvation?
7. If I failed to exercise this ability, could I lose it?

C. Be involved: *(See Acts 9:22, 29)*

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming “people of the Word” in principle AND in practice)

- A. Don’t remain ignorant. It is a sin that you will be accountable for. *(Ja. 4:17)*
- B. “Stir it up” as bellows do a fire by exercising it faithfully and joyfully. *(II Tim. 1:6)*
- C. “Don’t neglect” it, or you will cripple the local body of believers. *(I Tim. 4:14)*

“EXERCISING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT IN THE FUNCTIONING BODY”

I Corinthians 12-14

I. PREREQUISITES:

- A. Membership: *(see constitution application)*
- B. Risk Management Workshop if applicable: *(all infant, children, and teen ministries)*
- C. Faithfulness:

Faithfulness: Loyal, refusing to quit or give up. “One who is strict or thorough in performance of duty; true to one’s word and promises, steady in allegiance, reliable, trustworthy.” Webster (See **I Cor. 4:2**; Lam. 3:23b)

“Faithful” –where to begin in making a disciple– “A faithful individual is a born again believer, who has surrendered himself to the Lordship of Christ as a disciple, and who can be depended upon **to follow through with his commitments and delegated tasks, joyfully, promptly, and with excellence.**” A. Barnes (*I Cor. 4:2; II Tim. 2:2,4; II Tim. 4:10 contrasted with III Jn. 5*)

* The point – **Ministry is not delegated in order to make men and women faithful, but to those who are already faithful.**

“Putting confidence in an unreliable man is like chewing with a sore tooth, or trying to run on a broken foot.” Pro. 25:19
LBT

II. MINISTRY CONNECTIONS WITH YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT(S):

- A. Nursery – new-born and toddlers: *(Coordinator - Linda Hartman)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – mercy, helps, administration
 - 2. Applications – any of the regular four weekly scheduled services - **rotation**
- B. Olympians/gophers - children: *(Coordinator - Pam Floener)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – mercy, helps, teaching, administration, evangelism, faith
 - 2. Applications – Wed. PM for September-May:
- C. Jr. Church/Children’s Church - children: *(Coordinator - Gloria Sarber)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – mercy, helps, teaching, administration, evangelism
 - 2. Applications – The morning worship service - **rotation**
- D. Children’s S.S. – children K-5th grade: *(Coordinator – Raymond Rosenthal)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, evangelism
 - 2. Applications – Entire year during the Sunday School hour
- E. Jr. High Staff – grades 6th-8th: *(Coordinator – Conner Kitt)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, evangelism, administration, faith, exhortation
 - 2. Applications - Wed. PM, S.S. hour, outreach activities
- F. Sr. High Staff – grades 9th-12th: *(Coordinator Dave Gaynor)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, administration, evangelism, exhortation, faith, exhortation
 - 2. Applications – Wed. PM, S.S. hour, outreach activities
- G. Young Adults Staff: *(Coordinator - Lucas Hamlin)*
 - 1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, administration, evangelism, exhortation
 - 2. Applications – Thursday PM

- H. Audio/Sound: *(Coordinator – Tom McDowell)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration
 2. Applications – Sun. AM and PM worship services - **rotation**
- I. Kitchen/Bereavement/dinners: *(Coordinator - Cody Washburn, Connie Butorac)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration
 2. Applications – funerals, Easter, Thanksgiving, church picnic, VBS family night
- J. Prayer Chain: *(Coordinator Katy Braucher)*
1. Spiritual gifts - mercy
 2. Applications – promptly go to pray for each request, attend Wed. PM prayer service
- K. Ushers/Greeters: *(Coordinator Butch Luhr)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications – Sun. before each morning service
- L. Adult S.S. Teacher: *(Coordinator – see your shepherding elder)*
1. Spiritual gifts – teaching, exhortation
 2. Applications - Sun. AM from 9:00-10:10
- M. Church Cleaner: *(Coordinator - Katie McCarthy)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications – Tuesday, Thursday each week
- N. External Grounds/snow: *(Coordinator Sr. Pastor)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications - as needed for lawn mowing and snow removal for services
- O. Internal Maintenance: *(Coordinator Sr. Pastor)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications – couple hours per week
- P. Secretarial Staff: *(Coordinator – Sr. Pastor)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration, mercy
 2. Applications – part time as pastor deems necessary
- Q. Bus Ministry: *(Coordinator Mike Floener)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration, mercy
 2. Applications – camp week, all-nighter, school year for Wed. Olympians
- R. Women's Ministry, Bible Study/Mother's Heart: *(Coordinator – Jane Goble)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, exhortation, mercy
 2. Applications – Bible studies, Thursday AM Mother's Heart, semi-annual activities??
- S. Men's Ministry, Bible Study: *(Coordinator Pastor Tim, Pastor Dan)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, teaching, exhortation, mercy
 2. Applications – Wed. Am and afternoon Bible Studies, quarterly activities??

- T. Vacation Bible School: *(Coordinator – Kimberley LaDuke)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, evangelism, administration, teaching, faith
 2. Applications – one week in June from 9-12:00
- U. Church Camp – Jr. Hi-Sr. Hi.: *(Coordinator Pastor Dan)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration, exhortation, teaching, evangelism
 2. Applications – one week in August Monday through Friday
- V. Tech/power-point: *(Coordinator Marie Smith)*
1. Spiritual gifts – helps, administration
 2. Applications – Sun. AM and PM worship services - **rotation**
- W. Facilitate ordinances baptism, communion: *(Coordinator Sr. Pastor)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications – AM and PM worship services once a quarter
- X. Decorations/bulletin boards: *(Coordinator Denese Leake, Christie Maher)*
1. Spiritual gifts - helps
 2. Applications – seasonal bulletin boards, Christmas decorations
- Y. Pastor/teacher: *(Coordinator Pastor Tim, Pastor Dan)*
1. Spiritual gifts – pastor-teacher, teacher, evangelism, faith
 2. Applications – Sun. AM/PM weekly services
- Z. Counseling/visitation/provide meals-resources: *(Coordinator Sr. Pastor)*
1. Spiritual gifts – mercy, giving, exhortation, helps, evangelism
 2. Applications – as needed

III. CONNECTING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. Name and contact information:

Name: _____

Phone # and e-mail: _____

Date: _____

2. Please **circle** the letter of **each** ministry of interest (A to Z) and star the one you would choose to prioritize with your spiritual gift(s).

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| 3. Are you currently a member of Grace? | Yes | No |
| 4. Would you like to, if you haven't? | Yes | No |
| 5. Have you taken the risk management workshop? | Yes | No |
| 6. Would you like to, if you haven't? | Yes | No |

