

Identifying Your Spiritual Gift

God designed the discovery of our spiritual gifts to happen in the real world. Taking a quiz can be fun and somewhat helpful, but it can also give us artificial and untested results. Here are some key, real-life factors that work together to help us discover our spiritual gifting:

Obedience to the commandments

Most of the spiritual gifts listed in the Bible are also general commands. Through obedience to the commands, you discover the type of service or ministry that energizes you and contributes to spiritual reproduction.

Passion

What do you care deeply about? What motivates you? What do you dream about? What is your vision — for yourself, others, your church, community, the world? What is the “need of the hour” to you?

Calling

God has given you a specific “work of service,” or calling, within the general mandate to “LOVE!” and “GO!” (*Ephesians 4:12; John 13:34-35; Matthew 28:18-20*). The intersection of your passion and what others in the Body of Christ seek from you helps identify your specific work of service. A call will be coupled with a sense of peace and joy, regardless of challenges or sacrifice. When you perform your work of service, there will be fruit in yourself and others. People benefit and are blessed, and the Kingdom of God advances by what you do, whether you always see it or not.

Natural ability

What are you good at? What are your natural, God-given capabilities and aptitudes?

Life experiences

The things from the past that have shaped you (pain, hardship, upbringing, culture, ethnicity, etc.) influence the way in which the spiritual gift operates through you.

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Gifts are not doled out equitably. Some of us have one gift. Others have more than one.

The gifts are not distributed based on knowledge or experience or favor/lack of favor with God.

All the gifts have value and worth in God’s sight.

A gift will be effective or ineffective based on the proper use or misuse of that gift.

A gift cannot be created or generated in yourself or in another person. The gifts are NOT brought into existence by human effort.

You have no control over what gift(s) God gives you, but you are responsible for the stewardship of your gifts.

All the gifts are a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good and edification of others.

