

# DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

### INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You are gifted!

God hand-crafted you with intention and purpose, forming you with unique spiritual gifts, heart, abilities, talents, and experiences, or as we'll refer to to it here, your S.H.A.P.E.

One of our goals at Concordia is to help people better understand how God has SHAPEd them. A closely-related second goal is to then help people use this understanding to pursue opportunities to use those gifts and abilities as disciples of Jesus.

In order for you to find your "best fit" in ministry, we encourage you to consider this booklet as one way to uncover and explore your Godgiven gifts, passions, abilities, personality, and experiences. We all may have a different S.H.A.P.E for ministry, but we all have the same purpose: to use our God-given S.H.A.P.E. to follow Jesus and to strengthen His Body (the Church).

Once you have worked through the following pages, we encourage you to enter your S.H.A.P.E. results via the QR code at the back of this book.

## Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual gifts are not the same as talents. They are spiritual strengths God gives us for being a part of His work in the world. This assessment and the list on the next page are tools to help you better understand the gifts God is expressing in you. We hope that this list provides a glimpse into the part God has for you in His body now.

To learn more about spiritual gifts you can look at 1 Corinthians 12:27-31, Romans 12:3-8, Ephesians 4:11-16, and 1 Peter 4:10-11.



Directions: Please fill in your answers on page 6, based on the accompanying scale.

0 = Almost Never True 1 = Seldom True 2 = Sometimes True 3 = Often True 4 = Almost Always True

- 1. I am able to remain optimistic even when progress is not visible.
- 2. I prefer working in the background if I can be a help to others. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. I am able to welcome unexpected guests into my home.\_\_\_\_\_
- 4. People say I have a way of making the Bible "come alive." \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. When someone is hurting, I am able to say or do something that renews his or her hope and trust in God. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6. I am moved to help others struggling with emotional pain.
- 7. I like to give sacrificially and freely to those who are in need.
- 8. I am able to motivate groups to achieve specific, Biblical objectives.
- 9. I seem to be able to recognize and address the root problems that keep someone from growing spiritually.
- 10. I enjoy organizing ideas, tasks, and people for Christian service.
- 11. I love to pray for others and even lose track of time while praying.
- 12. Even when human circumstances don't add up, I will step out in faith if I feel it is God's will for me.
- 13. I will gladly respond with practical assistance when others ask for help.
- 14. I have a knack for helping people I don't know feel welcome at church or in my home.
- 15. I earnestly desire to explain Biblical principles and truths to others.
- 16. I take the time to say a kind word to those who are using their gifts in service to others.
- 17. People often turn to me when they are feeling hurt, lonely, or confused.
- 18. In an appeal for a worthy cause, I am among the first to give financially.
- 19. I am able to recognize the spiritual gifts of others and help them find a means to serve in ministry to others.
- 20. I am willing to help an individual find Biblical resources and then guide them as they grow in faith and Christian maturity.
- 21. I can recognize, and work to resolve, key issues confronting a team.
- 22. Most of my prayer time is spent addressing the needs of others.
- 23. I take God's promises at face value and I am comforted by their truth.



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- 24. When I see a need, I spring into action and do something about it.
- 25. I enjoy blessing people by having them over to my home for a meal.
- 26. I enjoy studying my Bible and the opportunity to clarify Biblical truths to others.
- 27. I feel comfortable using Scripture when people need courage and guidance.
- 28. I like to help people who suffer from physical, mental, or emotional problems.
- 29. I am committed to giving 10% or more of my income to the church.
- 30. I am energized when I am able to help people be in ministry to others.
- 31. I've had struggles in my past and I am able to share how God helped me.
- 32. I enjoy working out the details so that the work of God can be accomplished.
- 33.I take prayer requests very seriously and pray until the answer comes.
- 34.I believe that all things will work out to our benefit as long as we keep our trust in God. \_\_\_\_\_
- 35.I prefer to serve in some hands-on, practical ministry.
- 36.I would welcome the opportunity to house someone in need or a visiting missionary.
- 37. I have a solid understanding of the Bible, but I am also learning more each day as I study the scriptures and read Christian books.
- 38. I regularly write personal notes to praise someone for their help or service.
- 39. I often pick up on the emotional pain of others and come to their side.
- 40. I think I could do something to help those in financial distress.
- 41. God seems to use me to develop a spirit of unity and enthusiasm within a team.
- 42. I could help someone begin a personal relationship with God.
- 43. I don't get stressed trying to coordinate the necessary details to meet a deadline or orchestrate an event.
- 44. People in need seem to come to mind throughout the week, and I pray for them trusting God to see them through. \_\_\_\_\_
- 45. I have learned not to worry, but to pray for all things and at all times.
- 46. I prefer to serve at someone's side, helping him or her with the small details and tasks that need to get accomplished.
- 47. I like to introduce myself and speak with people that I've never met.
- 48. Continuous learning is something I greatly value and invest in personally.



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- 49. I feel compelled to strengthen other believers in the faith.
- 50. I think it is important to comfort those who are grieving.
- 51. I am willing to live more simply so that I can give more to God's work.
- 52. I am willing to bear the brunt of criticism for a team's failure.
- 53. At times, I know it is necessary to correct others. In those times, I am able to do so in love, so that God is honored and everyone involved is encouraged to press onward. \_\_\_\_\_
- 54. I am able to delegate and trust important tasks to the right people at the right time.
- 55. I believe that prayer is one of my most important daily activities.
- 56. I don't worry about tomorrow. I live in faith each day and trust God to guide me through each circumstance.
- 57. I prefer following someone else's lead rather than leading.
- 58. I enjoy reaching out to others and helping them feel at home wherever we are.
- 59. I like to share God's Word with others.
- 60. When people do good work, I am quick to praise and thank them.
- 61. I look for opportunities to bring hope and God's Word, to those who are sick or distraught.
- 62. I spend a lot of time earning money, but an equal amount of joy accompanies every dollar I give away.
- 63. I am able to recognize, redirect, and encourage a group that is being confronted by some obstacles and help them regain their focus.
- 64. I like to help people learn how to trust God in every aspect of life.
- 65. I am willing to cope with the difficulties that come with taking care of the details.
- 66. I have seen God heal someone in direct answer to my prayers.



Next you'll reveal your gifts, what they mean, and how you might find joy in using them!



Use the following chart to discover your spiritual gifts.

Score Card Instructions:

- 1. Write your numeric response for each question in the chart below. (This is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4)
- 2. Add the sum of each row across, and mark the total for each row next to the corresponding letter in the last column.

	Total					
1	12	23	34	45	56	A =
2	13	24	35	46	57	в =
3	14	25	36	47	58	C =
4	15	26	37	48	59	D =
5	16	27	38	49	60	E =
6	17	28	39	50	61	F =
7	18	29	40	51	62	G =
8	19	30	41	52	63	H =
9	20	31	42	53	64	I =
10	21	32	43	54	65	J =
11	22	33	44	55	66	L =

## My **S**piritual Gifts

Note your 3 highest scores and the letter they correspond to.

Gift of:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3.

Please remember, no score is better than another.

These numbers will help you to discover your spiritual gifts from God.

Now that you know your spiritual gifts, let's see how you can connect them to your Heart and what you are passionate about!

### **REVEALING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS**



Your highest 3 scores and their corresponding letters have revealed some of your most prominent Spiritual Gifts. Read below to learn more about your particular gifts.

- A: Faith--The gift to trust God for what can't be seen and, pressing forward, to act upon the promises of God. (Romans 4:18-21; Hebrews 11)
- B: Service/Helps--The gift to identify and take the initiative to meet the practical needs of others in the church, freeing them to fulfill their own calling or to attend to personal needs or urgent matters. (Acts 6:1-7)
- C: Hospitality--The gift of helping others feel welcome, accepted, relaxed, and comfortable. (1 Peter 4:9-10)
- D: Teaching--The gift to proclaim and clearly explain God's Word in a manner that transforms the lives of others. (1 Corinthians 12:28; Acts 20:20-21; Romans 12:6-8; Titus 3:1-2)
- E: Encouragement--The gift to provide encouragement, comfort, reassurance, and support in ways that foster healing and wholeness. (1 Thessalonians 5:11; Romans 12:8)
- F: Mercy--The gift to detect the emotional pains of others; to feel compassion, listen, and provide loving-care. (Luke 10:30-37; Romans 12:8; Matthew 20:29-34)
- **G:** Giving--The gift to cheerfully contribute material resources above and beyond a tithe to others and the church. (2 Corinthians 8:1-7; Romans 12:8; Mark 12:41-44)
- H: Leadership--The gift to instill vision and to motivate and direct people to be faithful to their calling and responsibilities. (Romans 12:8; Hebrew 13:7, 17; 1 Timothy 3)
- I: Exhortation--The gift to stimulate faith and promote Christian maturity in others. (Romans 12:8; Acts 11:23,24, 13:43, 14:22)
- J: Administration--the gift to design and effectively execute plans managing people, resources, and time in order to reach the long range goals and objectives of the ministry team or church. (Titus 1:5; 1 Corinthians 12:28, 14:28-30)
- K: Intercessory Prayer--The gift to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and frequently see direct results to those prayers. (James 5:14-16, 1 Timothy 2:1-2; John 17; Colossians 1:9-12, 4:12-13; Acts 12:12; Luke 22:41-44

Heart has to do with our passions; the things that excite us, the things that give us joy, even the things that keep us awake at night. The things and people that we are passionate about are not by accident. The better we understand and follow our healthy passions, the more fulfilled we can be in joining in God's amazing work.

#### AGES OR GROUPS OF PEOPLE I AM ESPECIALLY DRAWN TO (CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY)

#### Children

- Preschool
- \_\_\_\_ Elementary
- \_\_\_\_ Jr. High
- \_\_\_\_ High School

#### Adults

- \_\_\_\_ Young Adults
- Older Adults
- \_\_\_\_ Singles
- Parents & Families

Life and Dignity Issues

Homelessness

At-Risk Children

\_\_\_\_ Poverty

\_\_\_\_ Sanctity of Life/Abortion

#### People with Disabilities

\_\_\_\_ Children

- \_\_\_\_ Teenagers
- Adults

#### CAUSES OR ISSUES THAT MAKE MY HEART RACE

#### Health and Wellness

\_\_\_\_ Fitness

Education

\_\_\_\_ Literacy

Life Skills

- \_\_\_\_ Alcoholism/Recovery
- \_\_\_\_ Drug Abuse/Recovery
- \_\_\_\_ Hunger/Food Insecurity
- Prison

#### Spirituality

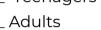
\_\_\_\_ Teaching the Faith

\_\_\_\_ Defending the Faith

### Abilities

\_\_\_\_ Financial Wellness

In the world of human resources, an ability is an acquired or natural capacity or talent that enables an individual to perform a particular job or task successfully. God has provided you with both natural aptitudes and the opportunities to learn various skills throughout your life so far. On the online form, you'll be able to add as many as apply to you! Some broad categories might be: Music, Hospitality, Technology, Medical Training, etc.



- \_\_\_\_ Marriage
- \_\_\_\_ Parenting
- \_\_\_\_ Divorce
- \_\_\_\_ Grief
- Abuse/Violence

Other

Relationships



## Personality

There are lots of personality tests out there! The one we've chosen is called "16 Personalities", which is a relatively short (~ 15 minutes), trait-based, and free online test. You may simply take the test and uncover your results, or go deeper with access to many free resources on learning about yourself, your motivation, identifying recurring patterns in your life, learning how to work better with others, and more.

One big takeaway - while this is an incredible tool for learning about yourself, the results of this test are not meant to be self-centered! In deepening your knowledge about yourself, your strengths and weaknesses, you will then have a deeper knowledge of how to serve alongside others in meaningful and positive ways. In being aware of other personality strengths and weaknesses, you will be better equipped to collaborate and connect with other disciples, all for the glory of God.

#### To take the free test, visit www.16personalities.com

MY RESULTS:	Y RESULTS: My personality type is: Where do you fall?									
	Extraverted Intuitive Thinking Judging Assertive			Observant Feeling Prospecting						
<b>My Role (circle or</b> Analyst	•		Sentinel		Evplorer					
AnalystDiplomatSentinelExplorerMy Strategy (circle one):Confident IndividualismPeople MasteryConstant ImprovementSocial Engagement										
Str	RENGTHS:			WEAKNESSES						

## Experiences

The things we experience in our lives help to shape who we are, our passions, and how God uses us. We all have many different kinds of experiences (personal, relational, vocational, educational, spiritual) that impact us in various ways. Our experiences, positive and painful, can all shape who we are and how we can be put to use for God.

Below, list three positive experiences that have impacted your life:

Now list three experiences you would describe as painful that have impacted your life:

How can God use these experiences in your life and the lives of others?

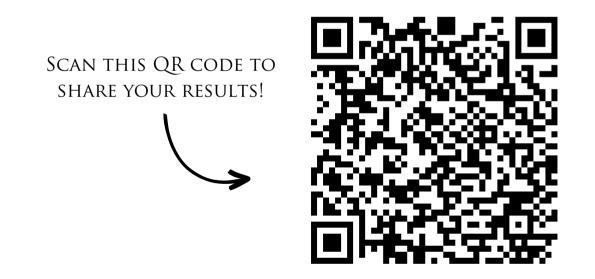
### USING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS



Thank you for putting in the work to complete this tool! We hope that this SHAPEd to SERVE journey will help you EMERGE:

- Refreshed and RENEWed in your perception of yourself as a gifted and equipped servant of Christ
- Ready to GROW and deepen as a disciple
- Eager to GO out and deploy your divinely-given gifts!

Please use the below QR code to send your results to our Connections team. While we won't be collecting all the information you've written here, the selections you send to us will help ministry staff contact you when ministry opportunities arise! In the meantime, we encourage you to seek out opportunities to serve wherever God has planted you, with a new appreciation and Christ-centered confidence in the SHAPE God has given you!



Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)





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