

Spiritual Gifts

Administration: *the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose.*
Administrative Council, Finance Staff, Service Director, Vacation Bible School Coordinator, Office Helper, Money Counter

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus organized his ministry by choosing his inner circle of three disciples (Mark 9:2), appointing the twelve (Mark 3:13-14), and sending out the seventy two by two (Luke 10:1). Joseph (Genesis 41:41-57 ; 47:13-26), Jethro (Exodus 18), and Titus (Titus 1:5) all demonstrate the gift of administration.

Artistry: *the gift that gives the believer the skill of creating artistic expressions that produce a spiritual response of strength and inspiration.*

Film/Photography Work, Crafts/Handicrafts, Decorating Team, Set/Props Design Team, Tech Team

Scriptural Examples:

- In the Old Testament, we see artistry at work. As people built the tabernacle according to God's instructions, it is clear that this is a gift that is given to some. (Exodus 28:3-4, Exodus 31:1-11, Exodus 35:30-35) The gift of artistry is putting the creative talent that God has gifted you to work, especially in a setting that glorifies God.

Discernment: *the gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations.*

Administrative Council, Vision Team, Shepherding Ministry, Peer Counseling, Support Group Facilitator

Scriptural Examples:

- John (1 John 4:1), Paul (Acts 16:16-18), Peter (Acts 5:1-11), and the disciples (Matt. 10:1) all demonstrated the gift of discernment.

Evangelism: *the gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community.*

Prospective Member Visitation, Ushers and Greeters, Advertising and Marketing, New Member Class, Mission and Service Projects

Scriptural Examples:

- Luke 19:10 says that "the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." People accused Jesus of being "a friend of tax collectors and 'sinners'" because he had many evangelistic relationships with sinful people (Matthew 11:19). Philip (Acts 21:8) and Timothy (2 Timothy 4:5) are also examples of evangelists.

Exhortation/Encouragement: *the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict of facing a spiritual void. Also uses their words and actions to encourage other people in their faith walk.*

Hospital/Home Visitation, Peer Counseling, Small Group Leader, Sunday School Leader, Youth Leader, Service Greeters and Ushers

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus told us to love even our enemies and do good to them (Luke 6:27-35), and exhorted people to "leave your life of sin" (John 8:11). Barnabas, whose name means "Son of Encouragement" (Acts 4:36), encouraged Paul (Acts 9:27) and John Mark (Acts 15:39). Paul had this gift (Acts 14:21-22; 16:40; 20:1) as did Judas and Silas (Acts 15:31-32).

Faith: *the gift that give a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to truth the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead.*

Stewardship Team, Vision Team, Teacher/Bible study leader, Youth leader

Scriptural Examples:

- In one sense, Jesus' entire life and ministry could be summarized as one of faith because he continually and perfectly trusted in God the Father in all things. Faith is also illustrated in the lives of Paul (Acts 27:21-25), Stephen, who was "full of faith" (Acts 6:5), and Jesus' mother, Mary, who trusted God to give her a child though she was a virgin (Luke 1:26-38). Hebrews 11 also lists a great number of Christians who had the gift of faith.

Giving: *the gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving on one's resources (time, talent, and treasure).*

Stewardship Team, Missions Council, Giving Personal Testimony, Teaching Stewardship Class

Scriptural Examples:

- Many of Jesus' words in the Gospels are related to our resources and stewardship of them. Though he was poor, Jesus not only fed thousands (Mark 6:41) but also gave us his life as a gift (John 15:13). Elsewhere in the Bible, the widow (Mark 12:42-43), Tabitha (Acts 9:36), Barnabas (Acts 4:34-37), and the Macedonian church (2 Cor. 8:1-2) all had this gift.

Hospitality: *the gift that causes the believer to joyfully welcome and receive guest and those in need of food and lodging.*

Greeter/Usher, New Member/Starting Point Classes, In-Home Bible Study Host, Visitor Welcome/Information Center, Food Ministry

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus spent time befriending social outcasts (Matt. 11:19), often ate with His disciples, and has welcomed us into the family of God, which includes an eternal home (John 14:2) and an eternal party (Isa. 25:6-9; Rev. 19:6-9). Elders and pastors are commanded to exercise hospitality (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8). Peter enjoyed the hospitality of Simon (Acts 9:43) and Cornelius (Acts 10:48). Paul enjoyed the hospitality of Lydia (Acts 16:15) and the Philippian jailer (Acts 16:34).

Intercession: *the gift that enables a believer to pray with the certainty that prayer is heard and when requests are made, answers will come.*

Prayer Chain, Prayer Partner, Prayer Team

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus taught us a lot about praying. He modeled for us how we should pray. Throughout the scriptures, we see people asking for prayer and instruction on when and where to pray. (Ephesians 6:18, 1 Timothy 2:1-2, 1 Kings 13:6, Luke 11:1-10, Matthew 6:6-15, Mark 11:22-25, James 5:14-16, Colossians 4:12-13, 1 Thessalonians 3:10)

Knowledge: *a gift that drives a person to learn, analyze, and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith.*

Resource Coordinator, Nominating Team, Vision Team, Administrative Council, Service Director

Scriptural Examples:

- Throughout his ministry, Jesus frequently quoted the Old Testament Scriptures from memory because he had committed himself to studying Scripture so faithfully. Jesus also rebuked the scholars of his day because they studied the Bible but failed to love him, which is the purpose of all study (John 5:39). Knowledge is illustrated in the lives of Ezra (Ezra 7:10), Solomon (Ecclesiastes 1:13; 7:25; 8:9), and Timothy (2 Timothy 2:15).

Leadership: *the gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction, and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task.*

Sunday School Leader, Committee Chairperson (all types), KidLife Worship Leader, Vacation Bible School Coordinator, Youth Leader

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus was such a gifted leader that in His day thousands followed Him and today billions follow Him as the greatest leader who has ever lived. Other examples abound, including Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, Daniel, Josiah, Paul, Peter, and James.

Mercy: *the gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then to act to meet that need.*

Home/Hospital Visitation, Transportation to Worship/Bible Study, Support Group Leader, Communion Server, Service Greeters and Ushers

Scripture:

- Jesus taught on mercy (Matt. 5:7; 9:13; 23:23). He is repeatedly described as having compassion (Matt. 9:36; 15:32; 23:37; Luke 7:13) and was so filled with mercy that He sometimes wept (John 11:35). Jesus' mercy included an attentiveness to and concern for children (Matt. 19:14). Dorcas "was always doing good and helping the poor" (Acts 9:36). Also, the good Samaritan is one of the most classic stories ever told on the subject of mercy (Luke 10:30-37).

Music-Instrumental: *a gift that inspires a believer to express personal faith and provide inspiration and comfort through the playing of a musical instrument.*

Worship Team, Choir Pianist, Special Event Music, Substitute Organist, Vacation Bible School-Music Program

Scriptural Examples:

- All throughout Scripture, we read of music being a way for us to connect with God and worship him. This is especially evident in the psalms. (1 Samuel 16:14-23, 1 Corinthians 14:26, Psalm 33:1-3, Psalm 149:3, Psalm 150:1-6, Colossians 3:16, 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 2 Samuel 6:14-15)

Music-Vocal: *the gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present personal witness and inspiration to others through singing.*

Church Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Sunday School Song Leader, Vacation Bible School Song Leader, Worship Team

Scriptural Examples:

- All throughout Scripture, we read of music being a way for us to connect with God and worship him. This is especially evident in the psalms. (1 Samuel 16:14-23, 1 Corinthians 14:26, Psalm 33:1-3, Psalm 96:1-2, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 149:3, Psalm 150:1-6, Colossians 3:16, 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, 2 Samuel 6:14-15)

Pastoring (Shepherding): *the gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability, and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers.*

Bible Study Leader, New Member Class, Small Group Leader, KidLife or Youth Leader

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus is called the "Good Shepherd" (John 10:11-14; 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25) and the "Chief Shepherd" (1 Peter 5:4). Also, the Bible gives us snapshots of Jesus sitting with people to pastor them, such as his interaction with the Samaritan woman at the well in John 4. Paul is another example of a pastor or biblical counselor (Acts 20:17-35).

Service (Helps): *the gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled.*

Tech Team, Church Mailings, Child Care, Building/Grounds Upkeep, Kitchen Team, Transportation Team

Scriptural Examples:

- Matthew 20:28 says that "the Son of Man [Jesus] did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jesus also said, "I am among you as one who serves," and He even washed His disciples' feet (Luke 22:27; John 13:5). Because servants often work behind the scenes, their work but not their name is often mentioned in Scripture (e.g., Numbers 11:17; 1 Timothy 6:2; Acts 6:1-3). People named in the Bible who helped the church through service include Phoebe, Priscilla, Aquila, Tryphena, Tryphosa (Romans 16:1-4,12), and John Mark (Acts 13:5). Some people with this gift are also appointed to leadership as church deacons (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

Skilled Crafts: *the gift that enables a believer to create, build, maintain, or repair items used within the church.*

Building Maintenance/Upkeep, Electrical/Masonry/Plumbing/Roofing, Mechanical Repair/Maintenance, Tech Team, Computer Maintenance, Web-Page Developer

- In the Old Testament, we see skilled crafts gifts at work. As people built the tabernacle according to God's instructions, it is clear that this is a gift that is given to some. (Exodus 28:3-4, Exodus 31:1-11, Exodus 35:30-35) The gift of skilled crafts is using the handy talents that God has gifted you, especially in a setting that glorifies God.

Teaching: *the gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others.*

Adult Bible Class Teacher, Sunday School Teacher, Youth Teacher, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Conference/Seminar Leader

Scriptural Examples:

- Throughout the gospels, Jesus was commonly referred to as *Rabbi*, which means "teacher." Matthew 4:23 says that "Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching," and Matthew 7:28-29 says that "the crowds were amazed at his [Jesus'] teaching because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law." Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18:26), Paul (Acts 19:8-10; 20:20; Colossians 1:28; 1 Timothy 2:7), elders/pastors (1 Timothy 3:2; 5:17), Timothy (1 Timothy 4:11,13; 6:2), and godly women (Titus 2:2-4) all demonstrated the gift of teaching.

Wisdom: *the gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts, and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers.*

Vision Team, Administrative Council, Peer Counselor, Support Group Leader, Small Group Leader

Scriptural Examples:

- Luke 2:40-52 says that Jesus was "filled with wisdom" as a boy and "grew in wisdom" as a young man so that the scholars of his day were "amazed at his understanding." Crowds who heard Jesus teach said, "What's this wisdom that has been given him?" (Mark 6:2). In Matthew 12:42, Jesus said that he was wiser than Solomon. And in Luke 21:15, Jesus said, "I will give you words and wisdom." We are also told that Jesus is the "wisdom of God" (1 Cor. 1:24,30). Wisdom is also illustrated in the lives of Joshua (Deut. 34:9), Solomon (1 Kings 3:5-28), and Daniel (Daniel 1:17-20; 2:19-23).

Writing: *the gift that gives a believer the ability to express truth in a written form; a form that can edify, instruct, and strengthen the community of believers.*

Newsletter Article Writer, Newsletter Editor, Public Relations/Publicity Committee, Letter Writing

Scriptural Examples:

- Without the spiritual gift of writing, we would not have the Scriptures. Writing helps us preserve the words of God over time so that generation after generation might connect with the stories of the Bible. (Luke 1:1-3, 1 John 2:1, 1 John 2:12-14, 1 Timothy 3:14-15, Jude 1:3)