Spiritual Gifts Descriptions

The work of the Holy Spirit is an awesome mystery for us. Because of the way these spiritual gifts are given to us and may manifest differently in each person, it is better to provide a description rather than a narrow, one-size-fits-all definition. These descriptions will give you a picture in words that will lead you to an image of your spiritual gifts. Also included are biblical references and suggestions of ministries that fit each gift.

Administration: the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose.

Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23.

Ministry Matches: Congregation Council, Finance Team, Sunday School Coordinator, Vacation Bible

School Coordinator

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

Biblical References: Exodus 31:1-11, Psalm 149:3a.

Ministry Matches: Ladies of Lydia, /Photography Work, Sunday School Craft Coordinator, Decorating Team,

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

Biblical References: John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

Ministry Matches: Congregation Council, Long Range Planning Team, Servanthood Ministry Team

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.

Biblical References: Matthew 28:16-20, Ephesians 4:11-16, Acts 2:36-40.

Ministry Matches: New Member Sponsor, Care Team (home visits)

Exhortation: the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict of facing a spiritual void.

Biblical References: John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8.

Ministry Matches: Mutual Ministry Team, Care Team (home visits), Small Group Leader

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

Biblical References: Genesis 12:1-4a, Mark 5:25-34, I Thessalonians 1:8-10.

Ministry Matches: Council President, Stewardship Team, Long Range Planning Team, Sunday School

Teacher/Bible study leader

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

Biblical References: II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4.

Ministry Matches: Stewardship Team, Capital Campaign Steering Team, Volunteer Coordination

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

Biblical References: Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23a, Luke 10:38.

Ministry Matches: Greeter/Usher, New Member Sponsor, Fellowship Hour Host/Server

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

Biblical References: Matthew 6:6-15, Luke 11:1-10, Ephesians 6:18.

Ministry Matches: Prayer Chain, Care Team (home visits)

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

Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:8; I Corinthians 14:6, Romans 12:2.

Ministry Matches: Nominating Team, Long Range Planning Team, Congregation Council

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.

Biblical References: Romans 12:8, John 21:15-17, II Timothy 4:1-5.

Ministry Matches: Sunday School/ Vacation Bible School Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator,

Congregational President

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

Biblical References: Luke 7:12-15, Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:34-36.

Ministry Matches: Care Team (home visits), Servanthood Ministry Team

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

Biblical References: Psalm 33:1-5, Psalm 150, I Samuel 16:14-23.

Ministry Matches: Special music performer, Sunday School/Vacation Bible School Music

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

Biblical References: Psalm 96:1-9, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 149:1-2.

Ministry Matches: Church Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Sunday School Song Leader, Vacation Bible School

Song Leader

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.

Biblical References: I Timothy 4:12-16, I Timothy 3:1-13, II Timothy 4:1-2.

Ministry Matches: Bible Study Leader, New Member Sponsor, Small Group Leader

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

Biblical References: Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23.

Ministry Matches: A/V Team, Nursery helper, Property Team

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

Biblical References: Exodus 30:1-6, Exodus 31:3-5, Ezekiel 27:4-11.

Ministry Matches: Property Team, A/V Team, IT help

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.

Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Matthew 5:1-12, Acts 18:24-48.

Ministry Matches: Sunday School Teacher, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Bible Study leader

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.

Biblical References: I Corinthians 2:6-13, James 3:13-18, II Chronicles 1:7-11.

Ministry Matches: Long Range Planning Team, Congregation Council, Mutual Ministry Team

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.

Biblical References: I John 2:1-6, 12-14, I Timothy 3:14-15, Jude 3.

Ministry Matches: Website maintenance, Newsletter Editor, Public Relations/Advertising, Letter Writing