
CHARACTERISTICS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Manifestation Gifts

WISDOM

I Corinthians 12:7, 8

A person with the gift of wisdom has the ability to understand and apply biblical and spiritual knowledge to complex, paradoxical, or other difficult situations.

Do I have the gift of wisdom?

- I seem to know the mind of Christ in seeing different courses of action and determining the best one.*
- I easily make practical application of the truths found in the Bible.*
- People often come to me for advice about personal and spiritual matters.*
- The Lord gives me understanding and insights into complex matters.*
- In the midst of difficult situations, the Holy Spirit gives me enlightenment that protects others from mistakes.*
- I have resolved paradoxes by cutting through to the essence of an issue, helping those involved see God's way in the middle of conflicting viewpoints.*

How can I develop the gift of wisdom?

1. James says, *"the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere"* James 3:17. You can deepen your understanding of this type of wisdom through extensive study of how to apply the teachings of the Bible to life.
2. Expose yourself to people and ideas so that you are aware of cultural trends, attitudes, and conflicts, but realize that the gift of wisdom is not necessarily dependent on your intelligence, skill or experience.
3. Practice stepping out and trusting the sense of revelation you seem to receive.
4. Test your thoughts with respected Spirit-filled believers.
5. Wisdom often improves with spiritual maturity. Nurturing your own spiritual growth can add to the gift of wisdom.

Biblical Example:

Peter, Paul, and James at the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15:5-19)

KNOWLEDGE

I Corinthians 12:7, 8

A person with the gift of knowledge has an impartation of facts from the mind of God which they normally would not know and which are used for the advancement of God's purposes.

Do I have the gift of knowledge?

- I hear the Lord speak to me about persons or situations.*
- I am used to confirm what God has already been speaking to others.*

_____ *At times I find myself knowing information about a situation that has not been told to me by anyone else.*

_____ *I see pictures in my mind of needs or problems.*

How can I develop the gift of knowledge?

1. Take time to be quiet so you can hear what God is saying to you.
2. Study and memorize the Word because although this gift is often an impartation of facts directly from the Lord, He will also use you for sound scriptural insight.
3. Pay attention to an “inner knowing” about something,
4. If you see pictures of needs or problems, be willing to speak out about them. As you speak out, more pictures may be given to you to further clarify the issue.
5. If you continue to have hunches or trains of thought that seem to be giving you information, and they don’t go away, write them down or talk them out. Test your hunches against the Scripture.

Biblical Example: Luke the author of the Gospel of Luke and Acts

FAITH

1 Corinthians 12:7, 9

A person with the gift of faith has the ability to recognize what God wants accomplished as well as sustain a stalwart belief that God will see it done despite what others perceive as barriers.

Do I have the gift of faith?

_____ *I firmly believe God is active in our lives.*

_____ *Sometimes I sense that God is orchestrating a project or idea.*

_____ *I find it easy to encourage and support when others have doubts.*

_____ *I believe deeply in the power of prayer and am aware of God’s presence in my life.*

_____ *I am able to believe that God is faithful, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable difficulties.*

_____ *People often tell me I am a “great optimist.”*

_____ *My personal experiences have helped to increase my faith and believe more in the power of faith for others.*

How can I develop the gift of faith?

1. Pray with those who have the gift of faith. Talk through your life circumstances with them to see where God has been at work.
2. Study the lives of those with the gift of faith such as George Mueller, a nineteenth-century Christian. He is best known for the orphanages he headed and his commitment to only depend upon prayer for support.
3. Study the lives of those who have the gift of faith in your own church, or in our present time.
4. Practice trusting the Lord with small things. As your faith and insight increase, look to God for help in larger arenas where God is at work.
5. Don’t be afraid to take leaps of faith even when the common seems the easiest way to go.

Biblical Example: The Centurion (*Matthew 8:5-10*)

HEALING

I Corinthians 12:7, 9

A person with the gift of healing is able to call on God for the curing of illness and the restoration of health in a supernatural way.

Do I have the gift of healing?

- I am naturally drawn to those who are sick either in spirit or in body.*
- Sometimes God seems to work through my prayers to bring physical, spiritual, relational, or emotional healing to others.*
- I am aware of God's presence and try to follow His guidance for how to pray in each situation where healing is desired.*
- Often I can sense if a person's problems are physical or emotional in nature.*
- When petitions for healing are spoken, I find myself wanting to pray.*

How do I develop the gift of healing?

1. Make sure you have mature Christian friends who can hold you accountable for using this gift.
2. Seek out people who are already using this gift. Observe their methods, but be sure they are following the biblical principles.
3. As a source of encouragement, journal or record the places where God is moving and healing.
4. Do not become discouraged if people are not healed the first time you pray. Sometimes multiple prayers result in healing; sometimes God has another agenda.

Biblical Example: Jesus (*The Gospels*)

MIRACLES

I Corinthians 12:7, 8, 10

A person with the gift of miracles can call on God to do supernatural acts that glorify Him.

Do I have the spiritual gift of miracles?

- I find myself praying for things that are obviously beyond the natural capacity of people.*
- I seek for God to be glorified however my prayers are answered.*
- I have seen God perform supernatural acts when I have prayed for intervention.*
- I have seen others accept the Christian faith through these displays of the impossible being accomplished.*
- I have faith miracles happen even today.*

How can I develop the gift of miracles?

1. Become involved in a small group of Christians who are mature in their faith and willing to hold you accountable as you minister to others with this gift.
2. Study the role of miracles in the Bible to understand God's purposes in allowing miracles to occur.
3. Fellowship with others who also have the gift of miracles.
4. Keep a journal of prayer requests and how they are answered. You may see a pattern of miracles at work, and see larger and larger **miracles** taking place.

Biblical Example: The Gospels

PROPHECY

Ephesians 4:7, 11

A person with the gift of prophecy is able to proclaim God's truths in a way relevant to current situations and to envision how God would will things to change.

Do I have the gift of prophecy?

- I often spot the differences between cultural trends and biblical truths.*
- I tend to see or think of images that convey God's truth.*
- To me, repentance, change, and challenge are a healthy part of our spiritual life.*
- I am very aware of the future consequences of choosing one path or another.*
- I listen carefully to God for what He wants me to say to others.*
- When necessary, I am able to confront people with the truth of a situation.*
- It saddens me when others ignore or take lightly life's problems.*
- Often I can verbalize God's truths in situations where that truth is encouraging or even where that truth is unpopular or difficult for listeners to accept.*

How do I develop the gift of prophecy?

1. Spend time improving your understanding of biblical standards, the roles and messages of biblical prophets, and the difference between biblical absolutes and relative standards.
2. Sometimes believers with the gift of prophecy have difficulty in leadership roles because of their tendency to use the gift judgmentally. If that is the case make sure you network with people with the spiritual gifts of discernment and wisdom so you have a way to test your prophetic revelations.
3. If you receive hunches, visions, or images, have a notebook nearby so that you can record them and how you are led to interpret them.
4. Test what you receive with the Scripture and the understanding of mature Christians.
5. Be aware that receiving a prophecy from God and being called to deliver it are two different events. Ask God when, how, and to whom the prophecy is to be given.

Biblical Example: John (*Revelation 2*)

DISCERNMENT

1 Corinthians 12:7, 10

This person is adept at recognizing what is of God and what is not of God.

Do I have the gift of discernment?

- I can generally rely on my first impressions of people and see if their motives or character are authentic.*
- I tend to know where a person is coming from.*
- I sometimes sense when something like a book or a message is bringing people closer to God, or pushing them away.*
- In most situations, I find my gut reacting to the circumstance or atmosphere I am experiencing, whether good or bad.*
- My mind usually picks up on whether books or speakers are in line with truths as the Bible reveals them.*
- Contradictions stand out to me.*
- I can distinguish different, non-godly sources of spiritual energy.*

How can I develop the gift of discernment?

1. Enroll in an in-depth Bible study to strengthen your knowledge and understanding of God's Word.
2. Work with others who have this gift to test your discernments.
3. Review church curriculum, participate in book studies, or work through difficult personal issues.
4. Be sure you understand the Biblical difference between judging to condemn (which is only in God's domain) and judging in a merciful and compassionate way to bring good to the Body of Christ.
5. Be sure you stay away from confrontations until you have grown in your Christian character.
6. Be sure you work through your own difficult situations with love, patience, kindness, and understanding.

Biblical Example: *Peter and Simon the sorcerer (Acts 8:18-24)*

TONGUES AND INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

1 Corinthians 12:7, 10

A person with the gift of tongues has the ability to speak in a language, known or unknown to others, supernaturally. This is in addition to the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

The gift of tongues is used in public gatherings, and the message in tongues is interpreted.

Do I have the gift of tongues?

- I have prayed in languages I have never before heard (received the baptism in the Holy Spirit).*
- Sometimes in a church service or gathering of believers, I feel prompted to speak out loud in my prayer language, not just in my personal worship, but in an address to the entire body.*
- I have heard others being used in the gift of tongues and the accompanying interpretation, and something rises up inside me that God may want me to be used that way.*

How do I develop the gift of tongues?

1. Be aware of our modern bias toward the concrete, material world and its denial of things we cannot see or explain. Allow yourself to be open to this manifestation of the Holy Spirit.
2. Find a prayer group or fellowship where you may operate in this gift and are free to express yourself in this way.
3. Pray for interpreters to be identified in the church.
4. Begin to pray aloud, allowing the tongue to express your feelings.

Do I have the gift of interpretation?

- I can interpret the words of others who have spoken in languages (tongues), even though I have never before heard the languages.*
- I understand how messages given through the use of tongues serve to glorify God, Jesus, or the Church.*
- When somebody speaks in tongues, I feel the Holy Spirit giving me the ability to interpret or speak.*

How do I develop the gift of interpretation of tongues?

1. Place yourself in an atmosphere where the gift of tongues is encouraged.
2. If you believe you have the first part of a message, step out in faith and begin to speak that interpretation aloud. Trust God to give you the rest of the meaning as you speak.

3. Ask those around you to give you feedback about the accuracy of your interpretations from their perspective.

Biblical Example: (*1 Corinthians 12 and 14*)

Special note:

Knowing the difference between the gifts of prophecy, knowledge, and wisdom can often be confusing.

Prophecy generally means declaring from God's perspective on what is right or wrong in a given circumstance. It can be indicating the future consequences of continuing on the same path. It may also foretell the future.

Knowledge is generally factual information about people or a situation that can be useful and insightful for making decisions.

Wisdom is generally a clarifying insight that cuts to the core of a paradox or conflict, identifying the solution or exposing the deeper dynamics of an issue.

Motivational Gifts

APOSTLE

Ephesians 4:7, 11

This is a person who has the ability to minister transculturally, starting new churches or ministries that impact multiple churches.

Do I have the gift of apostleship?

- I am interested in working in multiple church settings and diverse religious communities.*
- I am interested in sharing the gospel with those who have not yet heard it.*
- I am attracted to new ministries, churches, or settings, where a whole new approach to evangelism or service is needed.*
- Presenting the gospel to a different culture or in a different language sounds enjoyable.*
- I have a drive to spark spiritual interest in unique venues.*
- I have often envisioned myself as a spiritual entrepreneur.*

How can I develop the gift of apostleship?

1. Take advantage of short-term mission trips to see if you can minister effectively in settings outside of your regular church activities.
2. Seek out and interview those who have started new ministries. Talk to them about the essentials and efforts of their work.
3. Read biographies of famous missionaries.
4. Consider working with a ministry that works to bring new methods, services, or ideas to many churches.

Biblical Example: *Paul (Acts 17:16-34)*

PROPHET

Ephesians 4:11-13

This person has the ability to proclaim Christ regardless of the consequences in order to awaken, warn and stir up the Christian community. This gift may involve both the “fore-teller” (telling of things to come) and the “forth-teller” (telling forth the things of God with boldness) emphasis of proclamation.

Do I have the gift of prophet?

- I have a sense of urgency to express the heart of God for both blessing and warning.*
- I often receive revelations involving the manifestation gifts of knowledge, wisdom and discernment.*
- When I pray for people, they tell me that what I prayed was exactly what they needed.*
- I see things that can't be known in the natural and think about events that later come to pass.*
- The Lord seems to put me in circumstances where I require a word from him, and he provides it.*
- I love to spend extended time with God and hear his voice.*
- I don't always enjoy the things the average Christian enjoys, and I mourn over unrighteousness, injustice, and sinful conditions more than most people.*
- I often sense a nudge from the Holy Spirit to speak a word over people regarding his will for them.*

How can I develop the gift of prophet?

1. Read from the prophets in the Bible and read books about prophets and the prophetic ministry. Observe proven prophets and how they listen and speak as the Spirit leads them.
2. As you pray, ask the Lord if there is something he wants to reveal to you, and spend time waiting quietly before him.
3. Begin to use your gift in a small, safe group of Spirit-filled believers who are open to hearing from God.
4. Write what you feel the Lord is showing you, so you can confirm it later.
5. Making a mistake does not mean you are a false prophet but that you prophesied falsely. Make necessary apologies and keep letting the Lord form and direct you.

Biblical Example: *Agabus (Acts 21:10-12)*

EVANGELIST

Ephesians 4:7-11

This person has the willingness and ability to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to those who don't know Him in a way that makes them respond in faith and discipleship.

Do I have the gift of evangelism?

- I enjoy studying questions that challenge Christianity.*
- I think a lot about people who do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ wishing they could understand my faith.*
- I look for ways that might help others understand the difference Christianity can make in their lives.*
- I can see how people's needs can be met through Christian faith.*
- I am comfortable talking to other people about my faith in a way that makes them feel comfortable.*
- I enjoy friendships outside the Christian community, in hopes to win them to Christ.*
- I get excited about sharing the Good News with others and am thrilled when they receive Christ as their Savior.*

How can I develop the gift of evangelism?

1. Practice and practice giving the message in your own style.

2. Participate in training that will help you to respond correctly to questions.
3. Seek out another person who has this gift and network with him/her.
4. Make sure you understand your particular style and use it, but be open to different forms of sharing the gospel to become more effective in reaching different kinds of people.

Biblical Example: Philip (Acts 8:26-38)

PASTORING/SHEPHERDING

Ephesians 4:7, 11

A person with the gift of shepherding is able to guide and care for other Christians as they experience spiritual growth.

Do I have the gift of pastoring/shepherding?

- ___ *I enjoy encouraging others to develop in their faith.*
- ___ *I tend to think in terms of groups, teams, and task forces rather than individual personalities as I think about how I might help others.*
- ___ *I have compassion for those who seem to be getting off track.*
- ___ *I enjoy nurturing and caring for a group of people over a period of time.*
- ___ *I like to see people form long-term, in-depth spiritual relationships.*
- ___ *I can often assess where a person is spiritually; I try to create or look for places where they can connect to enable them to take the next step.*

How can I develop the gift of pastoring/shepherding?

1. Learn about small group ministry and consider taking small group leadership training.
2. Study how Jesus shepherded His disciples.
3. Consider working in the recruitment and placement side of the church. Assist people in connecting and relating to others.
4. Be sure you have your own shepherd who will encourage, teach, and make you accountable for your ministry.
5. If you feel called to full-time pastoral ministry, enroll in classes and begin the process of becoming credentialed.

Biblical Example: Jesus and His disciples

TEACHING

Romans 12:6, 7

A person with the gift of teaching has the ability to understand and communicate God's truths to others effectively in ways that lead to applications in their lives.

Do I have the gift of teaching?

- ___ *I like gathering information and then effectively communicating it to others.*
- ___ *I love to study the Bible. I receive new insights and understanding fairly easily and love to share them with people.*
- ___ *When I listen to other teachers, I often think of alternative ways to present the materials.*
- ___ *When I communicate what I have learned, others are motivated to learn more about the Bible and their faith in God.*

_____ *I want to relate God's truth to life in a way that helps people grow and develop.*

_____ *When I'm learning a spiritual truth, I automatically envision how to present the concept in a useful way to others.*

How do I develop the gift of teaching?

1. For depth and impact, the gift of teaching needs to be strengthened through skills of communication.
2. If the gift of teaching is to be effective there is a need to learn teaching methods that best suit the audience you are teaching.
3. Be willing to observe others with the gift of teaching for purposes of learning and growing in your gift.
4. Seek opportunities to study and share the Bible with others.
5. Create a system for filing illustrations, stories, images, quotes, etc., that you can use to bring your teaching to life and help to apply the truth to the life of the hearer.

Biblical Example: Peter and John (*Acts 3:11-4:4*)

Ministry Gifts

SERVICE/HELPS

I Corinthians 12:28

A person with the gift of helps has the ability to work alongside others and attaches spiritual value to the accomplishment of practical and often behind-the-scenes tasks that sustain the Body of Christ.

Do I have the gift of service/helps?

_____ *I tend to notice and assist with practical tasks that need to be done.*

_____ *As I do routine tasks, I feel a spiritual link to the ministries or people I serve.*

_____ *I would rather be responsible for set tasks than be involved in leadership.*

_____ *I prefer to work behind the scenes and often avoid public recognition for what I do.*

_____ *I receive satisfaction through quietly serving others.*

_____ *I enjoy working on odd jobs, often seeing a need and tending to it without being asked.*

How can I develop the gift of service/helps?

1. Remember the gift of service/helps always furthers God's kingdom, and the work that you are doing is of great value to God and His people.
2. Talk to people who share your passions or interests but have different gifts and find ways to help them.
3. When you work with others, speak up about what has to happen. Not everyone can spot ways to help others as easily as you do.

Biblical Example: Administrators in the Early Church (*Acts 6:1-7*)

EXHORTATION/ENCOURAGEMENT/COUNSELING

Romans 12:6, 8

This person has the ability to effectively listen to people, comforting, encouraging, and assisting them in moving toward spiritual, psychological and relational wholeness.

Do I have the gift of exhortation/encouragement/counseling?

___ *People tell me I am a good listener.*

___ *Others seem to be comfortable approaching me with their problems.*

___ *I often see gifts and attributes in others that they are slow to recognize for themselves.*

___ *I am usually aware of the emotional state of people around me, whether they are content or something is bothering them.*

___ *In stressful situations I often find myself able to give perspective of what is positive in a way that others can find helpful.*

___ *I tend to have more faith in people than they have for themselves.*

___ *I sympathize with others and am tolerant of their short-comings, yet I enjoy helping people mature in their faith.*

How can I develop the gift of exhortation/encouragement/counseling?

1. Consider your other spiritual gifts and discover how they can fit in with exhortation/encouragement/counseling. Example a teacher may work best in a small group where they can be more encouraging. If you have the gift of mercy you may want to seek out areas of service.
2. Consider training for one-on-one counseling or lay ministries that emphasize listening to others and mentoring others.
3. Make sure you have your own encourager, because you can get overloaded with too many burdens of others.
4. Consider being trained as a leader for a small group ministry where you can facilitate your encouragement to others.

Biblical Example: Barnabas (Acts 11:23, 24)

ADMINISTRATION

I Corinthians 12:28

This person has the ability to organize information, events, or material to work efficiently.

Do I have the gift of administration?

___ *I like to organize facts, people, or events.*

___ *When I am working on a project it is easy for me to see the necessary steps in the process to solve potential problems.*

___ *I become frustrated when I see disorganization.*

___ *I enjoy learning about managing, organizing, and functioning effectively.*

___ *I work at managing time and priorities, and or working on financial management.*

___ *I am generally careful and thorough in handling details.*

How can I develop the gift of administration?

1. Observe others with this gift as they organize events, outreaches, offices, or other tasks.

2. Develop skills that can improve your own efficiency, such as computer, accounting, planning, or proficiency in oral or written communication.
3. Start by taking responsibility for a small project, and learn as you go.

Biblical Example: *Joseph (Exodus 41:33-57)*

LEADERSHIP

Romans 12:6, 8

A person with the gift of leadership has the ability to motivate, coordinate, and direct the efforts of others in doing God's work.

Do I have the gift of leadership?

- I can motivate others and get people to work together toward a common goal.*
- I have enough confidence in my vision of what should be done to give direction to others.*
- I frequently accept responsibility in group settings where leadership is required.*
- People under my leadership sense that they are headed in a good direction.*
- When necessary, I can make unpopular decisions and work through the disagreements that follow.*
- I can see in advance what people can achieve.*

How can I develop the gift of leadership?

1. The Bible has much to say about the role of a servant leader. If you possess this gift you should meditate and understand the scriptures that describe God's perspectives on power, submission, and accountability.
2. Study the methods of those you consider to be great leaders in the eyes of God.
3. Leaders need the support of other visionary people and should be accountable to others to be sure they are following God's path.
4. Join a small prayer group and study accountability so that you have a base for discernment.
5. Seek out those with the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, administration, discernment, for guidance.

GIVING

Romans 12:6, 8

A person with the gift of giving is able to give of material wealth freely and with joy to further God's causes.

Do I have the gift of giving?

- I often give generously and joyfully.*
- I like to find ways to free up my resources to benefit others.*
- I would rather give anonymously, for the most part, unless my example might inspire others to be generous.*
- I tend to manage my own money well, often basing financial decisions on what will be made available for giving.*
- I feel comfortable and have success with approaching others to give of their resources.*

How can I develop the gift of giving?

1. Study the Bible's teaching on money, stewardship, and possessions.
2. Network with others who have developed systems for knowing when, where, and how much to give.

3. Research the ministries that interest you in order to discern whether your resources are well used.
4. Try to involve individuals who do not support your Christian outreach in your decision-making process as much as possible. Be sensitive to their needs for financial security. If possible, pray together about giving opportunities and/or look for other ways to give.

Biblical Example: The Early Church in Jerusalem (*Acts 4:32-35*)

MERCY

Romans 12:6-8

A person with the gift of mercy is able to perceive the suffering of others and comfort and minister effectively with empathy.

Do I have the gift of mercy?

- ___ *I get upset when people are hurt, displaced, or rejected, and I want to reach out to them in their suffering.*
- ___ *I enjoy finding ways to show others how much God loves them.*
- ___ *I can frequently see how to comfort people and meet their needs.*
- ___ *I can readily gain the confidence of those in need.*
- ___ *I am able to empathize with hurting people and enter into their healing process.*
- ___ *I tend to see each person as a life that matters to God and reach out to people who are avoided by others.*
- ___ *I enjoy conveying the grace of God to those who feel guilt or shame.*

How can I develop the gift of mercy?

1. Ask to be mentored by those who have the gift of mercy.
2. To build your confidence, go with others to pray and minister to those in need.
3. Pray for God to show you how to be tender and merciful. In some situations there is not right way or wrong way to do something.
4. Memorize Scripture verses that have to do with topics like forgiveness.
5. Using the gift of mercy can be physically and emotionally draining. Be aware of overextending yourself.
6. Realize you may need help from other people with gifts such as, administration, counseling, or encouragement as you work with needy people. You can't do it all.
7. Set boundaries and help people to learn to function on their own and become independent.
8. Don't let people become too dependent (codependent) on your help. They need to learn to face important issues in their lives.

Biblical Example: Jesus and the woman of Samaria (*John 4:1-30*)

HOSPITALITY

1 Peter 4:9, 10

A person with the gift of hospitality provides a warm welcome for people that demonstrates God's love by providing food, shelter, or fellowship.

Do I have the gift of hospitality?

- ___ *I am comfortable around strangers and care deeply about how my church welcomes them.*

- _____ *I can make all kinds of people feel welcome.*
- _____ *I enjoy providing a safe environment for those who are in need.*
- _____ *I feel fulfilled when I can open my home to others for food and fellowship.*
- _____ *I love to create appealing and appropriate environments for people.*
- _____ *I view relationships as opportunities to pass on God's love.*

How do I develop the gifts of hospitality?

1. Step out in faith! Even if your house is not big enough, or your budget does not allow you to serve things like shrimp, you will find that God blesses card tables, desserts, and potlucks.
2. Try different approaches and events, not everyone has to host a crowd.
3. Study the importance of simplicity and how it can set you free from concentrating on what you serve to who you are serving (people).
4. Make a point to meet someone new in church.
5. Participate in the hospitality ministry at church.
6. Find as many ways as possible to serve others.

Biblical Example: Lydia (*Acts 16:13-15*)

INTERCESSION

James 5:14-16; 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Although intercession is not listed in the Bible as a gift per se, some people feel led to pray for extended periods of time in behalf of others in need until they feel a release that an answer has come.

Does God want to use me in intercession?

- _____ *I pray easily, often and for extended periods of time.*
- _____ *The Lord regularly lays needs on my heart.*
- _____ *I am called to prayer even when I don't know what I am to pray about.*
- _____ *I may or may not pray well in front of other people. My prayer life is more Spirit-led, and I don't necessarily flow well in scheduled prayer events even though I value them.*
- _____ *I have great empathy for those I pray for, as if I'm experiencing their pain.*

How do I develop a life of intercession?

1. Accept the fact that your intercession may mostly be done in secret and that you may not be recognized.
2. Be aware of people and circumstances. You may be called to pray for personal, community, national or global needs. However, concentrate on what the Lord burdens you with and don't take on the responsibility of every need you see.
3. Share your answers to prayer so that others can be encouraged, giving all the praise to God.
4. Keep attentive while you are out among people so the Lord can give you a word. Be prepared to boldly ask someone if you can pray for them if you feel led.
5. Let your pastor know that you feel led in this direction and come under their leadership. They will be encouraged to know there are intercessors praying quietly for the church.

Biblical Example: People praying for Peter (*Acts 12:12*)

EXORCISM / CASTING OUT DEVILS / SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Matthew 10:8; 22:22-32

Although we are all commissioned to do everything Jesus commanded and did, including casting out devils, some individuals possess a special unction and burden to deal with those who are demon-possessed and oppressed by satanic forces.

Do I have a ministry of exorcism/casting out devils/spiritual warfare?

___ *I sense when people are bound and have strongholds.*

___ *I have a fervent desire to see people set free.*

___ *I battle in prayer over people and situations.*

___ *I discern the spirit world around me.*

___ *I pray prayers of binding and loosing.*

___ *A strong power and presence of God and his authority flood my being when I am in intense prayer, and I can tell that I am affecting the spirit world.*

How do I develop the gifts of exorcism/casting out devils?

1. Read portions of scripture that deal with the spirit world and listen to respected teachers and those who have been used in deliverance ministries. Don't just dwell on deliverance though; become well-rounded in the scripture.
2. Remember that you come in the name of Jesus, under the blood of Jesus, and on the authority of the holy scriptures.
3. Don't pray that the Lord will break the strongholds or cast the demons out. The Lord told us to cast them out. Be authoritative.
4. When confronted with a bound person or prayer need, know that you don't come in your own name. You can be effective even though you had other things on your mind before being called to pray because you are not speaking on your own authority, but God's. On the other hand, people who deal with deliverance ministry need to spend ample time in prayer because they are dealing directly with oppressive forces.
5. Once delivered, declare the things of God over the person you are working with and direct them to prayer, the Bible, Christian friends and a church. Do not let them go away empty, or they may be overtaken by Satan again.

Biblical Example: The seventy-two disciples (*Luke 10:17*)

DRAWING CONCLUSIONS:

Rate yourself on each of the gifts we presented with the following:

5 - This is definitely one of my spiritual gifts.

4 - This is probably one of my spiritual gifts.

3 - I am unsure. I need to learn more about this gift or experiment with ways to use this gift to find out if I have it.

2 - This is probably not one of my gifts.

1 - This is definitely not one of my gifts.