

## **Discovering Your Spiritual Gift**

These discussion questions are designed to be accompanied by a “Discovering Your Spiritual Gift” DVD.

Lessons on the DVD are taught by Pastor Tom Dunham.

WARNING – It’s a very low budget production.

It was produced specifically for our local Cottonwood congregation.

You may or may not understand the inside jokes. ☺

But the message/content is valuable and very worthwhile to go through.

A DVD can be ordered or checked out from Cottonwood.

## DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT! (Part 1)

*Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...  
Romans 12:6*

**Icebreaker:** Are you the kind of person that likes to wait & be surprised by your Christmas gifts or are you the kind of person that likes to try and find out what your gifts will be ahead of time?

### **Watch Part 1 of the DVD & take notes below:**

The three 'stages' to discovering your spiritual gift:

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Two essentials for discovering your gift:

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The seven 'motivational' gifts from Romans 12:

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|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ |          |

### **Discussion Questions (break into groups of 4-6):**

1. How is this discussion of spiritual gifts 'new' to you?
2. What activity or service in the Christian life do you really enjoy doing? (This can be a help in recognizing your spiritual gift.)
3. Which 'stage' of discovering your gift are you at now? Explain.
4. We will 'flesh out' and study spiritual gifts more in the next two weeks, but if you HAD to decide now what your ONE gift is, which would it be?

Prayer: Share a request you have based on these questions. Pray for the person on your left.

Sample Prayer: *"Dear God, please help \_\_\_\_\_ to discover and use their spiritual gift to build the body of Christ. In Jesus' name, amen."*

## DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT! (Part 2)

*Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...  
Romans 12:6*

**Icebreaker:** What is one of your least favorite chores to do around the house? Why?

### **Watch Part 2 of the DVD & take notes below:**

<b>Spiritual Gift</b>	<b>Example from Bible</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
Prophecy		
Serving		
Teaching		
Exhortation		
Giving		
Administration		
Mercy		

### **Discussion Questions (break into groups of 4-6):**

1. Think about yourself and the spiritual gift you think God has given you. Which characteristics (and 'abuses') of the gift can you identify with?
2. Now consider a family member or friend. Which of those characteristics (and 'abuses') do you see in his or her life?
3. How do you think an understanding of the characteristics of spiritual gifts could help you in relationships with others?

Prayer: Pray for each other based on your answer to #3.

Sample prayer: "Dear God, please help \_\_\_\_\_ to grow in his/her understanding of spiritual gifts and how they affect other people. In Jesus' name, amen."

## DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFT! (Part 3)

*Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them...  
Romans 12:6*

**Icebreaker:** What is one of your least favorite chores to do around the house? Why?

### **Watch Part 3 of the DVD.**

Key point from the video: While each verse from Romans 12:9-15 aligns in order with the spiritual gifts listed in 6-8, we all ought to excel in each characteristic given.

Take time to individually to review from the video and go through the 'checklist' for each gift on the next two pages entitled: Which of these Seven Persons Best Describes You?

### **Discussion Questions (break into groups of 4-6):**

1. Which of the seven persons best describes you? Are you surprised by this at all?
2. In what service or ministry in the church are you presently involved? How has that been a blessing to you - and others?
3. If you are not presently plugged into a ministry in the church, what interests do you have in that regard? (Please talk to your Home Group leader or a pastor and share your interests! We will help you find a place of service which 'fits!')
4. Can you think of a conflict you've had with someone in the past that now, in retrospect, can be traced to simply a difference of outlook based on spiritual gifts?

Assignment: As a Home Group, please come up with a service/kindness project in which you can all participate instead of your normal Home Group gathering.

Final Assignment: Please plan a 'party'/social time for your group - and feel free to invite other friends.

Prayer: Pray together for God to give you a service or kindness project that you can participate in with your Home Group.

Sample Prayer: *“Dear God, please help us to find a project to do that will place other people and display your love in a practical way. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*

***God bless you as you serve the Lord and His people with your gift!***

# WHICH ONE OF THESE EVEN PERSONS BEST DESCRIBES YOU?

## PERSON NUMBER 1

- You want to make sure that statements are true and accurate.
- You desire to gain as much knowledge as you can.
- You react to people who make unfounded statements.
- You check the credentials of one who wants to teach you.
- You use your mind to check out an argument.
- You enjoy spending hours doing research on a subject.
- You like to tell others as many facts as you can on a topic.
- You pay close attention to words and phrases.
- You tend to be silent on a matter until you check it out.
- You like to study material in a systematic sequence.

## PERSON NUMBER 2

- You can visualize the final result of a major undertaking.
- You enjoy coordinating the efforts of many to reach a common goal.
- You can break down a large task into achievable goals.
- You are able to delegate assignments to others.
- You see people as resources that can be used to get a job done.
- You are willing to endure reaction in order to accomplish a task.
- You require loyalty in those who are under your supervision.
- You remove yourself from petty details to focus on the final goal.
- You can encourage your workers and inspire them to action.
- You move on to a new challenge once a job is finished.

## PERSON NUMBER 3

- You see actions as either right or wrong.
- You react strongly to people who are not what they appear to be.
- You can usually detect when something is not what it appears to be. ~
- You can quickly discern a person's character. ~r~
- You feel a responsibility to correct those who do wrong.
- You separate yourself from those who refuse to repent of evil.
- You explain what is wrong with an item before you sell it.
- You let people know how you feel about important issues.
- You enjoy people who are completely honest with you.
- You are quick to judge yourself when you fail.
- You are willing to do right even if it means suffering alone for it.

## PERSON NUMBER 4

- You can sense when people have hurt feelings.
- You react to those who are insensitive to other's feelings.
- You are able to discern genuine love.
- You desire deep friendships in which there is mutual commitment.
- You seem to attract people who tell you their problems.
- You find it difficult to be firm or decisive with people.

- You tend to take up offenses for those whom you love.
- You need quality time to explain how you feel.
- You want to remove those who cause hurts to others.
- You often wonder why God allows people to suffer.

#### PERSON NUMBER 5

- You motivate people to become what you see they could be.
- You like to give counsel in logical steps of action.
- You can usually discern a person's level of spiritual maturity.
- You enjoy working out projects to help people grow spiritually.
- You sometimes raise expectations of results prematurely.
- You dislike teaching which does not give practical direction.
- You like to see the facial responses of those whom you counsel.
- You often take "family time" to counsel others.
- You enjoy giving examples from the lives of others.
- You soon give up on those who do not follow your counsel.
- You find it hard to follow through on the project you have started.
- You identify with people where they are in order to counsel them.

#### PERSON NUMBER 6

- You notice the practical needs of others and enjoy meeting them.
- You enjoy serving to free others for more important things.
- You are willing to neglect your own work to help others.
- You sometimes go beyond your physical strength in serving others.
- You can remember the likes and dislikes of others.
- You can usually detect ways to serve before anyone else can.
- You will even use your own funds to get a job done quickly.
- You do not mind doing jobs by yourself.
- You do not want public praise, but you do need to feel appreciated.
- You find it difficult to say "no" to those who ask for help.
- You like to put "extra touches" on the jobs you do.

#### PERSON NUMBER 7

- You are very frugal with money for yourself and your family.
- You enjoy investing money in the ministries of other people.
- You have an ability to make money by wise investments.
- You desire to keep your giving a secret.
- You react negatively to pressure appeals for money.
- You like to encourage others to give with your gifts.
- You want the ministries you support to be as effective as possible.
- You enjoy giving to needs which others tend to overlook.
- You sometimes fear that your gifts will corrupt those who get them.
- You desire to give gifts of high quality.
- You enjoy knowing that your gifts were specific answers to prayer.

WHICH PERSON DID YOU CHECK THE MOST?  
(Check back for answers.)

## **ANSWER KEY:**

1. Teacher; 2. Administrator; 3. Prophet; 4. Mercy; 5. Exhorter; 6. Server; 7. Giver