

DISCOVERING YOUR DIVINE
DESIGN

*(UNCOVERING PURPOSE AND
UNIQUENESS IN YOUR LIFE)*

SOME THINGS TO PONDER:

YOU ARE UNIQUELY CRAFTED, POSSESSING A SET OF GIFTS, PASSIONS, AND ABILITIES THAT COLLECTIVELY FORM YOUR DIVINE DESIGN.

DISCOVERING YOUR DESIGN INVOLVES SELF-EXPLORATION AND A WAY TO CONNECT WITH YOUR SENSE OF PURPOSE AND FULFILLMENT.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

WHO AM I?

WHERE DO I BELONG?

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

YOUR DIVINE DESIGN CONSISTS OF
TWO THINGS:

AN EXTREME MAKEOVER

AN ULTIMATE MAKEOVER

APOSTLE PAUL ALLUDES TO AN *EXTREME MAKEOVER*

Therefore, if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Cor. 5:17).

GOD WANTS TO TRANSFORM US INTO
SOMETHING AND SOMEONE BEAUTIFUL!

2 COR. 5:17 SELF-EXAMINATION PROMPTS:

HOW HAS FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGED HOW YOU SEE YOURSELF?

WHAT PART OF YOUR IDENTITY DO YOU FEEL GOD IS RESHAPING RIGHT NOW?

WHERE DO YOU FEEL GOD INVITING YOU TO GROW?

WHAT'S SOMETHING JESUS HAS FREED YOU FROM—OR IS FREEING YOU FROM?

PAUL GIVES US A CLEAR PICTURE OF AN *ULTIMATE MAKEOVER*

EPH 2:1-3 DESCRIBES WHO WE WERE BEFORE
SALVATION.

WE WERE *DEAD* IN SIN, *SEPARATED* FROM GOD,
PRISONERS OF THE WORLD'S SYSTEM AND ALL ITS
DYSFUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS; AND *ADDICTED* TO
OUR OWN CRAVINGS, MANIPULATION AND PEOPLE-
PLEASING HABITS.

OUR *ULTIMATE MAKEOVER* (CONTINUED)

EPH 2:4-6 DESCRIBES WHO WE ARE AFTER SALVATION.

NO LONGER OBJECTS OF GOD'S WRATH

WE HAVE NEW STANDING WITH GOD AS RIGHTEOUS AND CLEAN.

WE HAVE A NEW IDENTITY, POWER, FUTURE, PURPOSE, PRIVILEGES, AND INHERITANCE.

GOD'S OBJECTIVES IN MAKING US OVER (EPH 2:7-9)

GOD WANTS TO REVEAL THE RICHES OF HIS
GRACE

THE MAKEOVER IS A REVELATION OF HIS
NATURE—HIS GOODNESS, KINDNESS,
COMPASSION, LOVE, WISDOM, AND POWER

HIS **EXTREME MAKEOVER** HAS BROUGHT YOU
INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS TO SHAPE YOU
INTO HIS IMAGE

GOD'S OBJECTIVES IN MAKING US OVER (EPH 2:7-9)

ULTIMATELY, IN LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU WILL DISCOVER THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS HIS SPIRIT HAS PLACED IN YOU TO MAKE THE "AFTER" OF YOUR LIFE A BEAUTIFUL, FULFILLING PICTURE FOR ALL TO SEE!

YOU ARE A MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING

PROOF OF YOUR MASTERPIECE: FOR WE ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP, CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS UNTO GOOD WORKS, WHICH GOD HATH BEFORE ORDAINED THAT WE SHOULD WALK IN THEM (EPH. 2:10).

THE WORD “WORKMANSHIP” CONVEYS A MASTERPIECE, A WORK OF THE FINEST CRAFTSMAN.

A MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING (EPH 1:3-6)

BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD,
GOD KNEW YOU & LOVED YOU

GOD SAVED YOU, UNDERSTANDS YOU, AND
WANTS TO RESTORE TO YOU ALL HIS GOOD
PURPOSES FOR YOUR LIFE

HE IS CALLING YOU TO MAINTAIN A DEEP
RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

WHAT ROLE DOES THE CHURCH PLAY IN THE MASTERPIECE PROCESS?

THE CHURCH IS THE CRAFTSMAN'S STUDIO
WHERE MASTERPIECES ARE MADE

THE CHURCH IS THE LIVING, BREATHING,
CALLED-OUT PEOPLE OF GOD WHO ARE
LIVING IN COMMUNITY TOGETHER, DOING
LIFE TOGETHER IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY
SPIRIT BASED ON GOD'S WORD.

THE POWER OF TOGETHERNESS

WHEN GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER AROUND HIS WORD, LIVES CHANGE (EPH 3.10-11)

GOD'S OVERARCHING PLAN IS FOR HIS PEOPLE TO BECOME *DEMONSTRATIONS* OF HIS WISDOM & CHARACTER SO THAT THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE CAN SEE THE AMAZING MAKEOVERS THAT GOD'S GRACE AND POWER CAN PRODUCE.

TAKE NOTICE:

WHEN HUMAN BEINGS ARE REMADE FROM BEING “DEAD IN THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS AND SINS” (EPH 2:1) INTO TROPHIES OF GOD’S GRACE, THE WHOLE UNIVERSE IS IN AWE.

GOD WANTS EVERYONE ON PLANET EARTH TO SEE WHAT HE DOES IN HIS PEOPLE AND THINK, WOW!

A MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING

GOD DOES EXTREME MAKEOVERS IN TWO PLACES:

- *THE CHURCH* – WHICH GOD BUILDS UP AS HIS DWELLING PLACE
- *THE HUMAN HEART* – WHICH GOD IS ALIGNING WITH HIS HEART

A MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING

IN EPH 3:16-19, PAUL PRAYED THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WOULD EMPOWER BELIEVERS SO THAT THEY IN FAITH WOULD EXPERIENCE THE INDWELLING IN THEIR HEARTS OF CHRIST HIMSELF, ALL FOR GOD'S LARGER PURPOSES

WHAT DOES OUR LIFE AS A MASTERPIECE IN CHRIST LOOK LIKE?

IN SUMMARY FORM, EPH 4 POSITS:

- *THE NEED TO EMBRACE THE NATURE & CHARACTER OF GOD (vv. 2-6)*
- *THE NEED TO RECEIVE THE GIFTS GOD HAS GIVEN (vv. 7-13)*
- *YOU HAVE BEEN ENDOWED WITH GRACE (v. 7)*

WHAT DOES OUR LIFE AS A MASTERPIECE IN CHRIST LOOK LIKE?

IN SUMMARY FORM, EPH 4 POSITS:

- *YOU HAVE AN ENDOWMENT, THAT IS, A SHARE IN THE PLUNDER OF CHRIST'S VICTORY OVER SIN & DEATH (v. 8)*
- *THE GIFTS THAT COME FROM CHRIST'S VICTORY ARE SUPERNATURAL (vv. 9-10)*

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PRECEDING GIFTS, AS SEEN IN EPH 4:11-13

BETWEEN THE TIME OF HIS DEATH ON THE
CROSS AND RESURRECTION FROM THE
GRAVE, JESUS PROCLAIMED VICTORY OVER
SATAN, SIN, AND DEATH

THE EVIDENCE OF JESUS' WONDERFUL,
MIRACULOUS WORK IS THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS
HE GIVES TO EVERY CHRISTIAN

AS GOD'S MASTERPIECE IN THE MAKING,
WHAT'S OUR TASK AT HAND?

TO DISCOVER, DEVELOP, AND DEPLOY
OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS ACCORDING TO
GOD'S DESIGN

GOD HAS GIVEN SPECIFIC GIFTS TO EACH
BELIEVER TO FULFILL THEIR SPECIFIC
PURPOSES, AS SEEN IN 1 COR 12:11

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE?

DISCOVERING THE GIFTS THAT ARE YOURS IS A PROCESS THAT INVOLVES STUDY, MUCH PRAYER, AND EVIDENCE OF FRUITFULNESS
YOU RECEIVED YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS AT THE MOMENT OF SALVATION
YOU ARE A PAINTBRUSH IN THE MASTER ARTIST'S HANDS!

TEN PRINCIPLES FOR UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS ONE OR MORE GIFTS
2. MANY CHRISTIANS HAVE RECEIVED MORE THAN ONE GIFT
3. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE GIVEN AT THE MOMENT OF REGENERATION, BUT THEY MAY LIE UNDISCOVERED AND DORMANT FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME

TEN PRINCIPLES FOR UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

4. SPIRITUAL GIFTS CAN LIE DORMANT OR BE NEGLECTED, BUT THEY CANNOT BE LOST
5. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT THE SAME AS THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
6. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT THE SAME AS THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
7. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE NOT THE SAME AS NATURAL TALENTS

TEN PRINCIPLES FOR UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

8. SOME GIFTS ARE MORE USEFUL IN LOCAL CHURCHES THAN OTHERS BECAUSE THEY RESULT IN GREATER EDIFICATION OF THE BODY
9. CHARISMATA LITERALLY MEANS “GRACE GIFTS”; THE HOLY SPIRIT SOVEREIGNLY AND UNDESERVEDLY GIVES THESE GIFTS

TEN PRINCIPLES FOR UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

10. SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE GOD'S SPIRITUAL
EQUIPMENT FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE
AND EDIFICATION OF THE BODY

DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE UNIQUE AND
DIVERSE

YOUR GIFTS WILL LOOK DIFFERENT FROM
THOSE GIVEN TO OTHERS

EVEN THOSE WHO HAVE THE SAME GIFTS
AS YOU WILL EXPRESS THEM DIFFERENTLY

DISCOVERING YOUR PRIMARY SPIRITUAL GIFT

BASED ON BIBLICAL TEACHINGS, THERE'S A
GOOD CHANCE YOU HAVE MORE THAN ONE
SPIRITUAL GIFT, AND PERHAPS TWO OR
THREE

ONE OF THEM WILL BE PRIMARY

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHICH ONE IS
PRIMARY

SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

THERE ARE FOUR MAJOR PASSAGES IN THE NT ON SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

- *ROMANS 12:4-8*
- *1 CORINTHIANS 12*
- *EPHESIANS 4:11-13*
- *1 PETER 4:10-11*

DIFFERENT PASSAGES INCLUDE DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONTEXTS.

HINDRANCES TO DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

IGNORANCE – VAGUE AWARENESS

CONFUSION – DISAGREEMENT OVER
WHICH GIFTS ARE PERMANENT OR
TEMPORARY, WHICH ONES ARE ESSENTIAL
FOR ALL BELIEVERS OR NONESSENTIAL
FOR ANYONE

LEST WE FORGET

DISCOVERING THE GIFTS THAT ARE YOURS IS
A PROCESS THAT INVOLVES STUDY, MUCH
PRAYER, AND EVIDENCE OF FRUITFULNESS

GIFTS ARE SOVEREIGNLY BESTOWED BY GOD
AS AN ACT OF GRACE

BELIEVERS CAN DEVELOP THEIR GIFTS AT
ANY POINT IN THEIR WALK WITH CHRIST

WHAT 1 COR 12:4-6 REVEALS:

- THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF GIFTS, BUT THE SAME SPIRIT DISTRIBUTES THEM
- THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF ADMINISTRATIONS (SERVICE), BUT THE SAME LORD
- THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF OPERATIONS (WORKINGS), BUT IN ALL OF THEM AND IN EVERYONE IT IS THE SAME GOD AT WORK

WHAT 1 COR 12:4-6 REVEALS:

DIFFERENT KINDS OF GIFTS (MOTIVATIONAL)

- *CHARISMATA*—GOD'S GRACE GIFTS

DIFFERENT KINDS OF ADMINISTRATIONS (MINISTRY)

- *DIAKONIA*—"A WAITER OF TABLES"—THOSE WHO SERVE

DIFFERENT KINDS OF OPERATIONS (MANIFESTATION)

- *ENERGEMATON*—EXPRESSES ENERGY

MOTIVATIONAL	MINISTRY	MANIFESTATION
<p><i>CHARISMATA</i> ROM 12:6-8</p>	<p><i>DIAKONIA</i> EPH 4:11; 1 COR 12:28</p>	<p><i>ENERGEMATON</i> 1 COR 12:8-11</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PROPHECY - SERVICE - TEACHING - ENCOURAGEMENT - GIVING - LEADERSHIP - MERCY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APOSTLES - PROPHETS - EVANGELISTS - PASTOR/TEACHER - TEACHERS - WORKING OF MIRACLES - HEALING - HELPING - TONGUES - ADMINISTRATION/LEADERSHIP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WORD OF WISDOM - WORD OF KNOWLEDGE - FAITH - HEALING - MIRACLES - PROPHECY - DISCERNMENT - TONGUES - INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

1. PROPHECY – A DIVINE ABILITY TO PROCLAIM GOD’S TRUTH WITH POWER AND CLARITY IN A TIMELY AND CULTURALLY SENSITIVE FASHION FOR CORRECTION, REPENTANCE, OR EDIFICATION—
”STRENGTHENING, ENCOURAGING AND COMFORT” (1 COR. 14:3).

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE WITH THE PROPHETIC MOTIVATIONAL GIFT:
TEND TO BE PERSUASIVE SPEAKERS

READ PEOPLE WILL

CAN COME ACROSS AS OPINIONATED OR INSENSITIVE

CAN DEPEND ON THEIR SPEAKING ABILITY RATHER
THAN ON THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IF NOT
CAREFUL

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE WHO HAVE THIS GIFT OFTEN ASK THE QUESTION, *WHAT WENT WRONG HERE?*

THEY HAVE A GOD-GIVEN SENSE OF WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN TO MAKE IT RIGHT.

THOSE WHO LISTEN TO THESE PEOPLE CAN SUDDENLY FEEL AS THOUGH THEY SEE THINGS CLEARLY.

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

2. SERVICE – THE DIVINE ABILITY TO ATTACH SPIRITUAL VALUE TO ACCOMPLISHING PHYSICAL TASKS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST. IT'S THE ABILITY TO DEMONSTRATE LOVE BY MEETING PRACTICAL NEEDS THAT FACILITATE OTHER CHRISTIANS IN THEIR MINISTRY.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT INTUITIVELY ASK, *WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?*

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF SERVICE:
DO NOT SEEK PUBLIC RECOGNITION
ARE CONTENT TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES, THOUGH
THEY DO WANT TO KNOW THAT PEOPLE CARE
WILL OFTEN OVERLOOK THEIR OWN DISCOMFORT OR
NEEDS IN ORDER TO SERVE
CAN BECOME BITTER WHEN THEIR HARD WORK IS NOT
RECOGNIZED

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

3. **TEACHING** - THE GIFT OF TEACHING IS THE DIVINE ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND GIVE A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF BIBLICAL TRUTH.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT OFTEN INTUITIVELY ASK, *WHAT IS THE TRUTH ON THIS ISSUE? WHERE DID YOU GET THAT? WHY?*

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF TEACHING:

LOVE TO STUDY AND DO RESEARCH

ARE DOCTRINE-ORIENTED

MAY NEGLECT THE APPLICATION OF TRUTH AND BE
INATTENTIVE TO NEEDS OF STUDENTS

MAY BECOME PROUD OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

4. ENCOURAGEMENT – THIS GIFT IS A DIVINE ABILITY TO COME ALONGSIDE PEOPLE AND REASSURE, STRENGTHEN, AFFIRM, AND CHALLENGE THEM AND STIMULATE FAITH.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT OFTEN ASK, *WHAT MUST BE DONE TO FIX THIS? HOW CAN WE MOVE THIS PERSON TO WHOLENESS?*

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF
ENCOURAGEMENT/EXHORTATION:

ARE GIFTED COUNSELORS

KNOW HOW TO APPLY SCRIPTURE PRACTICALLY

INITIATE, IMPLORE, AND CALL US TO GODLY LIVING

CAN SPEND TOO MUCH TIME WITH PEOPLE WHO WANT ONLY
TEMPORARY SOLUTIONS

MIGHT BECOME DISCOURAGED AT THE LACK OF RESULTS

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

5. GIVING – A DIVINE ABILITY TO EARN MONEY, MANAGE IT WELL, AND CONTRIBUTE WISELY, CHEERFULLY, AND GEREROUSLY TO GOD’S WORK.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT OFTEN ASK, *WHAT CAN I GIVE TO MEET THIS NEED?* THE ANSWER IS NOT ALWAYS MONETARY, BUT THIS GIFT WILL ALMOST ALWAYS BE REFLECTED IN A PERSON’S FINANCES.

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF GIVING:

GENERALLY, AVOID THE SPOTLIGHT AND GIVE ANONYMOUSLY

WANT TO KNOW THE RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT

AVOID HIGH-PRESSURE TACTICS

MIGHT HAVE A TENDENCY TO BE PRIDEFUL

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF
GIVING (CON'T):

CAN OVEREMPHASIZE MATERIAL NEEDS
OVER SPIRITUAL NEEDS

MIGHT JUDGE OTHERS BY THEIR BANK
ACCOUNTS

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

6. LEADERSHIP – THE DIVINE ABILITY TO NOTICE WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, SET GOALS TO GET IT DONE, AND THEN ATTRACT, MOTIVATE AND LEAD PEOPLE WHO CAN ACCOMPLISH THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT OFTEN ASK, *WHAT IS THE GOAL? WHERE ARE WE TRYING TO GO? HOW DO WE GET THERE?*

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF LEADERSHIP:

ENJOY RESPONSIBILITY AND TAKING CHARGE

SEE A NEED AND ENVISION A PLAN TO MEET THE
NEED

MOBILIZE AND DELEGATE TASKS TO OTHERS

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF LEADERSHIP
(CON'T):

MIGHT HAVE A TENDENCY TO USE PEOPLE TO ACHIEVE
GOALS

CAN BECOME PROUD OF THEIR POWER

SOMETIMES FORGET THE SPIRITUAL PURPOSE BEHIND THE
PROJECT

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

7. **MERCY** – THE DIVINE ABILITY TO MINISTER CHEERFULLY AND APPROPRIATELY TO PEOPLE WHO ARE SUFFERING OR UNDESERVING AND TO SPARE THEM THE CONSEQUENCES THEY MIGHT DESERVE.

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT OFTEN ASK, *HOW CAN I MAKE THESE PEOPLE FEEL BETTER?*

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF MERCY:

DETECT AND DISCERN PEOPLE'S FEELINGS

SEEK DIRECT MINISTRY TO RELIEVE SUFFERING

PROVIDE A COMPASSIONATE BUFFER IN MINISTRY

MIGHT HAVE A HARD TIME BEING FIRM

MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS DEFINED

PEOPLE MOTIVATED WITH THE GIFT OF MERCY
(CON'T):

CAN FEEL THAT THEIR DESIRE TO HELP IS OFTEN
MISUNDERSTOOD

MIGHT TEND TO RESENT THOSE WHO DON'T HAVE
THE GIFT OF MERCY

RESPONDING IN YOUR MOTIVATIONAL GIFT (AN ILLUSTRATION)

PICTURE SEVEN TABLES AT A CHURCH BANQUET. AT EACH TABLE IS A REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS ONE OF THE SEVEN MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS. THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE FINISHED THEIR MAIN COURSE, AND THE WAITSTAFF IS BEGINNING TO CLEAR THE TABLES IN PREPARATION FOR THE DESSERT COURSE.

JUST THEN, A WAITER COMES INTO THE HALL CARRYING A HUGE TRAY. UNFORTUNATELY, HE COLLIDES WITH ONE OF THE STAFF CLEANING UP A TABLE. HE SPINS AND FALLS, AND THE DESSERTS ON THE TRAY GO FLYING.

HOW DOES EACH OF THE SEVEN REPRESENTATIVES REACT TO THE SCENE?

PROPHECY

“I COULD SEE THIS COMING FROM A MILE AWAY. IT WAS A MISTAKE FROM THE BEGINNING. YOU CAN’T TAKE AWAY PLATES AND BRING DESSERTS AT THE SAME TIME.”

MOTIVATION: TO CORRECT LIFE

SERVICE

“LET ME HELP YOU WITH THAT! I’LL WIPE YOU OFF AND WE’LL CLEAN UP THE MESS TOGETHER.”

MOTIVATION: TO FULFILL A NEED

TEACHING

“THE REAL REASON THIS HAPPENED WASN’T BECAUSE THEY WERE TAKING UP PLATES AS THE DESSERT WAS BEING BROUGHT IN. I’VE ANALYZED THIS AND OBSERVED THAT THERE WERE SEVEN DESSERTS ON ONE SIDE OF THE TRAY AND FIVE ON THE OTHER SIDE.

TEACHING (CON'T)

THAT THREW OFF THE WAITER'S BALANCE. FURTHERMORE, HE WAS WEARING THE WRONG KIND OF SHOES, MAKING IT EVEN MORE LIKELY HE WOULD STUMBLE AND FALL, RUINING OUR DESSERTS."

MOTIVATION: TO DISCOVER WHY IT HAPPENED

ENCOURAGEMENT

*“I HAVE AN IDEA. NEXT TIME JUST SERVE
THE DESSERT WITH THE MEAL.”*

MOTIVATION: TO CORRECT THE FUTURE

GIVING

“THE MAIN SPEAKER’S SUIT JACKET IS RUINED. DISHES ARE BROKEN AND THE CARPET IS DESTROYED. HERE, WEAR MY JACKET WHILE YOU SPEAK, AND I’LL BUY YOU A NEW SUIT TOMORROW. THIS CHURCH CARPET SHOULD HAVE BEEN REPLACED YEARS AGO. I’LL THROW IN \$5,000 AND THE REST OF YOU CAN JUMP IN WITH ME.”

MOTIVATION: TO GIVE TO RELIEVE A NEED

LEADERSHIP

“JOE, FIND A MOP. BETTY, GET SOME PAPER TOWELS. BEN, HELP THE WAITER UP. LET’S HAVE THE WORSHIP LEADER PLAY ONE MORE SONG AS WE GET THIS CLEANED UP. EVERYONE ELSE—WE’LL BE READY TO GO IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.”

MOTIVATION: TO GET BACK ON TRACK TO ACCOMPLISH THE INTENDED GOAL.

MERCY

“OH, DON’T FEEL BAD! THIS COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO ANYONE. IT’S OKAY.”

MOTIVATION: TO RELIEVE EMBARRASSMENT

RESPONDING IN YOUR MOTIVATIONAL GIFT (CONCLUSION)

KNOWING WHICH OF THE GIFTS ENERGIZES YOU
WILL SPARE YOU A LOT OF FRUSTRATION AND
FUTILITY.

WHEN YOU ANCHOR YOURSELF IN YOUR
MOTIVATIONAL GIFT, YOU EXPERIENCE TWO
IMPORTANT F's—FULFILLMENT AND FRUITFULNESS.

DEVELOPING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS FOR THE KINGDOM

FIVE REASONS TO DEVELOP YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

1. *DIRECTION AND PURPOSE*
2. *FREEDOM TO EMBRACE AND ENJOY WHO YOU
ARE*
3. *JOY*
4. *AFFIRMATION OF YOUR VICTORY WITH CHRIST*
5. *ACCOUNTABILITY*

DEVELOPING YOUR GIFTS BEGINS WITH CLARITY

THE HOLY SPIRIT DETERMINES HOW YOUR GIFTS WILL BENEFIT PEOPLE

UNDERSTANDING YOUR PRIMARY MOTIVATIONAL GIFT BRINGS CLARITY

TO DEVELOP YOUR MINISTRY GIFTS, YOU'LL NEED A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT EACH GIFT IS AND HOW IT WORKS

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

APOSTLESHIP—THE ABILITY TO START CHURCHES OR OTHER MINISTRIES AND OVERSEE THEIR DEVELOPMENT

THE NT MAKES A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE *OFFICE* OF APOSTLE AND THE *MINISTRY GIFT*

PAUL WROTE THAT THE CHURCH WAS BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION LAID BY THE APOSTLES, ALONG WITH THE PROPHETS (EPH. 2:20)

PAUL WAS SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO THE 12 WHO WERE WITH JESUS AND *WITNESSED* HIS RESURRECTION

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

PROPHECY—A DIVINE ABILITY TO PROCLAIM GOD'S TRUTH WITH POWER AND CLARITY IN A TIMELY AND CULTURALLY SENSITIVE FASHION FOR CORRECTION, REPENTANCE, OR EDIFICATION (1 COR. 14:3)

PROPHECY CAN BE A PRIMARY MOTIVATIONAL GIFT, BUT IT CAN ALSO SERVE AS A MINISTRY GIFT

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

PROPHECY (CON'T)

THERE IS A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE *OFFICE* OF PROPHET AND THE *PROPHETIC MINISTRY* OF PROCLAIMING GOD'S TRUTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF LIFE CHANGE

WE DON'T GET NEW REVELATION AS BIBLICAL PROPHETS AND WRITERS OF SCRIPTURE DID, BUT WE CAN STILL RECEIVE BIBLICAL INSIGHTS, AS STATED IN 1 COR. 14:1

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

EVANGELISM—THE ABILITY TO EFFECTIVELY LEAD UNBELIEVERS INTO A SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS
ALL CHRISTIANS ARE CALLED TO HAVE SOME ROLE IN EVANGELISM, BUT EVANGELISTS ARE GIFTED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE TASK

THEY HAVE TWO GOALS: THAT LOST SOULS BE SAVED, AND THAT OTHER BELIEVERS LEARN TO EVANGELIZE TOO

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

PASTOR/TEACHER—THE ABILITY TO LEAD , NOURISH, PROTECT, AND CARE FOR THE NEEDS OF A FLOCK OF BELIEVERS

PASTOR/TEACHER IS THE ONLY DUAL GIFT IN THE NT
NOT EVERYONE IN THE ROLE OF PASTOR NEEDS TO
HAVE THIS GIFT

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

TEACHING—THE DIVINE ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND GIVE
A DETAILED EXPLANATION OF BIBLICAL TRUTH

THIS CAN BE A PRIMARY MOTIVATIONAL GIFT, BUT IT'S ALSO
A MINISTRY GIFT THAT FLOWS OUT OF OTHER
MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS TOO

SOME WITH THIS GIFT ARE MOTIVATED BY EXHORTATION,
PROPHECY, OR LEADERSHIP, FOR EXAMPLE

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

MIRACLES—THE ABILITY TO SERVE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD IN MANIFESTING HIS SUPERNATURAL POWER

MIRACLES BEAR WITNESS TO GOD'S PRESENCE AND TRUTH AND OFTEN OCCUR IN ASSOCIATION WITH MISSIONARY ACTIVITY AS A MEANS OF DEMONSTRATING WHO HE IS

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

MIRACLES (CON'T)

GOD SOMETIMES AUTHENTICATES THE GOSPEL MESSAGE WITH MIRACLES THAT OPEN THE DOOR FOR THE PROCLAMATION OF THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS THROUGH CHRIST

ALTHOUGH GOD CAN DO MIRACULOUS WORKS THROUGH ANYONE, SOME PEOPLE ARE GIFTED IN PRAYING FOR, DECLARING, AND SEEING THIS KIND OF SUPERNATURAL ACTIVITY

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

HEALING—THE ABILITY TO SERVE AS A HUMAN INSTRUMENT FOR GOD TO CURE ILLNESSES AND RESTORE HEALTH

A PERSON WITH THIS GIFT CAN'T SIMPLY HEAL ANYONE THEY CHOOSE, BUT GOD CAN HEAL THROUGH THEM WHENEVER *HE* CHOOSES

GOD STILL HEALS, AND SOME PEOPLE ARE ESPECIALLY GIFTED IN PRAYING FOR HEALING

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

HELPING—THE ABILITY TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MINISTRY OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BODY

1 COR. 12:28 IS THE ONLY PLACE IN THE NT WHERE THE WORD *HELPING* (*HELPS*) IS USED, AND IT SEEMS TO BE DISTINCT FROM THE GIFT OF SERVICE

SOME COMMENTATORS SUGGEST THAT *SERVICE* IS GROUP-ORIENTED AND THE GIFT OF *HELPS* IS MORE PERSON-ORIENTED

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

ADMINISTRATION/LEADERSHIP—THE ABILITY TO STEER A CHURCH, MINISTRY, OR GROUP TOWARD THE FULFILLMENT OF ITS GOALS BY MANAGING ITS AFFAIRS AND IMPLEMENTING ITS PLANS

THE TERM USED HERE FOR ADMINISTRATION/LEADERSHIP IS DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE USED FOR THE MOTIVATIONAL GIFT OF LEADERSHIP

A PERSON CAN HAVE THE GIFT OF LEADERSHIP WITHOUT THE GIFT OF ADMINISTRATION

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

WISDOM—THE ABILITY TO APPLY THE PRINCIPLES OF GOD’S WORD PRACTICALLY TO SPECIFIC SITUATIONS AND RECOMMEND THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION AT THE BEST TIME

PEOPLE WITH THE GIFT OF WISDOM ARE ABLE TO TURN INSIGHT AND DISCERNMENT INTO EXCELLENT ADVICE

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

KNOWLEDGE—THE ABILITY TO DISCOVER, ANALYZE, AND SYSTEMATIZE TRUTH FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT CAN SPEAK WITH PENETRATING UNDERSTANDING

GOD ALSO MAY PROVIDE SUPERNATURAL PERCEPTION AND DISCERNMENT TO PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT WHILE MINISTERING TO OTHERS

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

FAITH—THE ABILITY TO HAVE A VISION FOR WHAT GOD WANTS DONE AND CONFIDENTLY BELIEVE THAT IT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED REGARDLESS OF WHATEVER CIRCUMSTANCES AND OBSTACLES SEEM TO BE IN THE WAY
THIS GIFT TRANSFORMS VISION INTO REALITY
SOMETIMES, THIS GIFT IS STIRRED UP BY SOMEONE ELSE'S MOTIVATIONAL GIFT

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

DISCERNMENT—THE ABILITY TO DISCERN THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH FROM THE SPIRIT OF ERROR

GOD GIVES ALL OF US THE ABILITY TO DISCERN TRUTH WHEN WE SOAK OUR MINDS AND HEARTS IN SCRIPTURE

HOWEVER, SOME PEOPLE HAVE THE GIFT OF A SPECIAL SENSITIVITY IN RECOGNIZING COUNTERFEITS, FALSE TEACHINGS, DEMONIC INFLUENCE, AND CARNAL MOTIVES

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

TONGUES—THE ABILITY TO RECEIVE AND IMPART A SPIRITUAL MESSAGE IN A LANGUAGE THAT THE RECIPIENT HAS NEVER LEARNED SO THAT OTHERS IN THE BODY CAN BE EDIFIED

IN A MINISTRY SETTING, THE INTERPRETATION OF TONGUES IS NECESSARY; THE MESSAGE SHOULD BE INTERPRETED EITHER BY THE RECIPIENT OR SOMEONE ELSE WITH THE GIFT OF INTERPRETATION

MINISTRY GIFTS AND MANIFESTATIONS

TONGUES (CON'T)

1 COR 14 TELLS US THAT THIS GIFT IS IMPORTANT BUT POTENTIALLY DISRUPTIVE IF NOT HANDLED WITH CARE

AT ITS BEST, THE GIFT OF *INTERPRETATION* DEMONSTRATES GOD'S POWER AND REVEALS HIS MESSAGE TO PEOPLE WHO WOULD NOT OTHERWISE UNDERSTAND IT