



DISCOVERING YOUR DIVINE DESIGN

*UNCOVERING PURPOSE
&
UNIQUENESS IN YOUR LIFE*

COMMON SIGNS OF ABUSE AND MISUSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. WHEN SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE USED TO MANIPULATE OR EXERT POWER OR CONTROL IN RELATIONSHIPS
2. WHEN SOMEONE CLAIMS TO BE ABLE TO IMPART A SPECIFIC GIFT IF YOU FOLLOW A FORMULA
3. WHEN A GIFT IS TREATED AS UNIVERSAL EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUALITY, SALVATION, OR A UNIQUE SPIRITUAL BLESSING

COMMON SIGNS OF ABUSE AND MISUSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

4. WHEN THE FOCUS OF A CHURCH SERVICE OR MINISTRY EVENT IS ON THE MANIFESTATION OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS **RATHER THAN ON THE GIVER AND HIS PURPOSES FOR THE CHURCH**
5. WHEN YOU COMPARE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS WITH THE GIFTS OF OTHERS

COMMON SIGNS OF ABUSE AND MISUSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

6. WHEN ANY EXTREME POSITION ON SPIRITUAL GIFTS IS TAUGHT AS THE SINGULAR RIGHT INTERPRETATION
7. WHEN YOU USE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN YOUR OWN STRENGTH OR PUT THEM TO USE TO IMPRESS OTHERS OR SATISFY YOUR EGO
8. WHEN YOU OBSERVE A PERSON WITH A SPIRITUAL GIFT AND ASSUME THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY MATURE

COMMON SIGNS OF ABUSE AND MISUSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

9. WHEN APPARENT MANIFESTATIONS OF THE SPIRIT ARE COUNTERFEITED BY HUMAN SCHEMES OR DEMONIC FORCES
10. WHEN A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY TEACHES THAT THE DISCOVERY, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEPLOYMENT OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS IS OPTIONAL

SPIRITUAL GIFT ACTION PLAN

1. **COMMIT** TO DISCOVERING, DEPLOYING, AND DEVELOPING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH
2. **PRAY** SERIOUSLY, SEEKING DIVINE GUIDANCE
3. **STUDY** THE GIFT PASSAGES IN THE BIBLE:
ROM 12:4-8; 1 COR 12; EPH 4:11-13; 1 PET 4:10-11
4. **SEEK** GOOD COUNSEL

SPIRITUAL GIFT ACTION PLAN

5. **TEST** THE WATERS FOR A FEW WEEKS OR MONTHS
6. **EXAMINE** THE FULFILLMENT FACTOR
7. **RECOGNIZE** GOD'S EVIDENT BLESSING

THE BIG 3 QUESTIONS:

▶ WHO AM I?

▶ *YOU ARE:*

- ▶ ETERNALLY VALUABLE
- ▶ FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE (PSALM 139:14)
- ▶ UNIQUELY CREATED BY GOD

THE BIG 3 QUESTIONS:

▶ WHERE DO I BELONG?

▶ *YOU BELONG:*

- ▶ TO GOD, AS HE HAS PLACED YOU IN HIS FAMILY
- ▶ UNCONDITIONALLY ACCEPTED (EPH 3:6, 14-19)
- ▶ OBJECT OF GOD'S AFFECTION

THE BIG 3 QUESTIONS:

- ▶ **WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?**
 - ▶ *YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO:*
 - ▶ FULFILL GOD'S PURPOSE, AS GIFTED BY HIM
 - ▶ YOU ARE IRREPLACEABLY SIGNIFICANT
 - ▶ YOU ARE HIS WORKMANSHIP (EPH 2:10)

YOU ARE ONE OF GOD'S MASTERPIECES

- ▶ GOD HAS CREATED YOU IN CHRIST JESUS
- ▶ GOD HAS PREPARED WONDERFUL WORKS FOR YOU TO WALK IN
- ▶ THOSE WORKS WILL BE LARGELY DETERMINED BY SUPERNATURAL ENDOWMENTS BY **JESUS**, ACTIVATED BY **THE HOLY SPIRIT**, IN ALIGNMENT WITH **GOD'S WORD**, SO THAT GOD IS GLORIFIED AND CHRIST IS EXALTED!!!

TALENTS, ABILITIES, AND SPIRITUAL GIFTS

KEY DIFFERENCES:

A **TALENT** IS A NATURAL POTENTIAL

AN **ABILITY** IS A DEVELOPED SKILL

A **SPIRITUAL GIFT** IS A GOD-GIVEN
EMPOWERMENT SPECIFICALLY FOR
SERVING OTHERS AND BUILDING UP
THE FAITH COMMUNITY

TALENTS

TALENTS ARE NATURAL STRENGTHS YOU ARE BORN WITH; THEY ARE INBORN, GENERAL, AND USEFUL ANYWHERE—SCHOOL, WORK, HOBBIES, AND RELATIONSHIPS.

- ▶ MUSICAL EAR
- ▶ ATHLETIC COORDINATION
- ▶ CREATIVITY
- ▶ EMPATHY

ABLILITES

ABILITIES ARE SKILLS YOU DEVELOP THROUGH PRACTICE. THEY COME FROM TRAINING, REPETITION, AND DISCIPLINE.

- ▶ PLAYING PIANO WELL
- ▶ CODING
- ▶ PUBLIC SPEAKING
- ▶ MANAGING PROJECTS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE HOLY SPIRIT-EMPOWERED CAPACITIES FOR SERVING OTHERS. THEY ARE NOT JUST NATURAL STRENGTHS. THEY ARE SUPERNATURALLY EMPOWERED FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD.

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES?

HOW TO TELL THEM APART IN LIFE

▶ ORIGIN

- ▶ **TALENT** – YOU'RE BORN WITH IT
- ▶ **ABILITY** – YOU LEARN IT
- ▶ ***SPIRITUAL GIFT*** – YOU RECEIVE IT THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

▶ PURPOSE

- ▶ **TALENT** – HELPS YOU SUCCEED OR ENJOY LIFE
- ▶ **ABILITY** – HELPS YOU PERFORM TASKS WELL
- ▶ ***SPIRITUAL GIFT*** – HELPS OTHERS GROW, HEAL, OR ENCOUNTER GOD

HOW TO TELL THEM APART IN LIFE

▶ IMPACT

- ▶ **TALENT** – IMPRESSIVE AND ENJOYABLE
- ▶ **ABILITY** – EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE
- ▶ ***SPIRITUAL GIFT*** – TRANSFORMATIVE AND SPIRITUALLY FRUITFUL