

Spiritual Gifts

Romans 12: 1 – 8

Prophecy (Perceiver)

What did the Old Testament prophets have in common?

John 8:32

Some common characteristics of prophets (perceivers)

- Quickly and accurately identifies good and evil (with a hatred for evil)
- Perceives the character of groups and individuals
- Strong opinions and convictions
- Needs to verbalize truth
- Sees things as black or white
- Very often will marry someone with the gift of mercy
- Can be opinionated
- Can be blunt, judgmental, and intolerant of different ideas

Hint: If you are a perceiver, you need to be an intercessor!

Mercy

James 2:13

Some common characteristics of people with the gift of mercy

- High capacity to show love
- Desire to make peace
- Sense emotional and spiritual atmosphere of people
- Attracted to hurting people (wants to remove hurts)
- Will support the underdog
- Avoids conflicts and confrontations
- Can be ruled by heart and not by head
- Can be easily hurt and indecisive

Teacher

Acts 17:11

Some common characteristics of teachers

- Presents truth in a logical, systematic way
- Validates truth by checking out facts
- Enjoys studying and doing research
- Prefers Biblical illustrations over life illustrations
- Hates Scripture used out of context
- Concerned that truth be established
- Concerned about the accuracy of facts and words
- Large vocabulary
- Can be a “know it all” (proud of intellectual ability)
- Can be dogmatic
- Can get sidetracked by new ideas

NOTE: You don't have to have a teacher motivation to be an excellent teacher.

(Put the following verse on a separate slide by itself and use the New American Standard version – Luke 1:1 – 4)

Exhorter

Hebrews 10:25

Some common characteristics of Exhorters

- Loves to encourage others to live victoriously
- Wants a visual response
- Prefers to apply truth rather than research it
- Sees trials as opportunity to grow
- Gives specific steps to solve problems
- Wants practical information
- Can take Scripture out of context
- Can give “cut and dry” steps

- Can be a manipulator

Leader (Administrator)

Luke 14:31

Some common characteristics of Leaders

- Highly motivated to organize
- Desire to accomplish goals
- Natural delegator
- Will let others take credit for accomplishments
- Ability to make quick decisions
- Wants things done quickly
- Dislikes routine tasks
- Can focus on task rather than people (ie. Use people to accomplish goal)
- Can become upset when others don't see the goal

Server (Doer)

Matt 23:11

Some common characteristics of servers:

- Recognizes practical needs and meets them
- Shows love by deeds
- High energy level
- Often very gifted with their hands
- Likes manual projects
- High is hospitality
- Handles tasks with order and attention to details
- Needs to feel appreciated
- Has difficulty delegating
- Difficulty understanding why others don't just pitch in and help (without being asked)
- May think they can do it better than anyone else

Giver

Like 16:9

This is the toughest one to define – not all sources are in complete agreement.

Some common characteristics of givers:

- Desires to give without being noticed
- Feels delighted when a gift is the answer to prayer
- Wisdom (and often frugality) in money matters
- Hates pleas for money
- Dislikes waste
- Can save (hoard?) money
- If married, seeks confirmation for gift amount
- Wants the best value
- Willing to invest self for worthwhile causes
- Can live below his/his means
- Unpredictable spending patterns with family
- Can put “strings” on gifts
- Can appear stingy