



Week 3: Sacred Purpose PRACTICE

Day 1 (Sunday) - Spiritual Gifts (Part 1)

Read these passages about spiritual gifts:

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

1 Corinthians 4:25-30

Romans 12:4-8

Ephesians 4:11-16

1 Peter 4:10-11

What do you notice?

How do these texts affect your living?

What gift(s) do you bring to the body of Christ?

How do you currently offer your gifts in the context of the church?

Day 2 (Monday) - Spiritual Gifts (Part 2)

Fill out the Spiritual Gifts Questionnaire (attached). What is your reaction to the results? How do you envision using your gift(s) for the building up of the Body of Christ?

Day 3 (Tuesday) - Created with Purpose (Part 1)

Read Psalm 139:13-16

Name at least 5 things this passage says about you.

Read Jeremiah 1:4-5

What was the work Jeremiah was called to?

Day 4 (Wednesday) - Created with Purpose (Part 2)

Read Galatians 1:5-7

Like Paul, you are “set apart” for God’s work. In what way(s) can you embrace this concept in your own life?

Read Galatians 5:22-25

Consider the fruits of the spirit Paul names. Where do you see those traits in your own life? How are you “bearing fruit” in your service to God and others?

Day 5 (Thursday) - Calling (Part 1)

Read Genesis 12:1-9

What did you notice about Abraham’s story? Do you believe that God can call *you* at any age, at any stage of your life?

Day 6 (Friday) - Calling (Part 2)

Read 1 Samuel 3:1-11

Where might you need help in discerning whether it is God’s voice that you are hearing? Who might be your “Eli”—someone who can listen with you? Consider asking that person to help you discern God’s voice in this season of your life. What new thing might God be calling you to do?

Day 7 (Saturday) - Possibilities

If you are currently serving in the church in some capacity, what do you love about it? Take time to consider at least two other possible areas of ministry that connect your passion and gifts. Pursue information online or with other resources and make a list of possible places of involvement. Don’t overlook informal opportunities involving family, friends, or your workplace or neighborhood. Choose one place where you will commit to explore how to get involved.

Spiritual Gifts Assessment

**Each of you should use
whatever gift you have
received to serve others, as
faithful stewards of God's
grace in its various forms.**

—1 Peter 4:10



Nativity Lutheran Church

God has blessed all of us with many gifts and talents.

Some of us are skilled as a cook, scientist, athlete or a gardener. God calls us to use all of our talents to serve God and others. But the Holy Spirit has also blessed us with spiritual gifts that are meant to be shared with others to bring maturity and unity in faith. As Christians, each one of us is a part of the body of Christ, and we have an important role to play in keeping the body healthy.

Like other presents, it is impossible to fully appreciate and make use of our spiritual gifts until they have been opened. This tool will help you begin to open your spiritual gifts by guiding you through the following activities:

- Explore scripture references that describe the spiritual gifts
- Take a 66-question (15 min.) self-assessment to help you identify which gifts you have received in greatest measure
- Read descriptions, general characteristics, and cautions about your gifts
- Learn about possible uses of your gifts through service opportunities at Nativity and elsewhere.



Scripture References

The Apostle Paul addresses spiritual gifts in: Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4. Peter advises Christians about them in I Peter 4. Through these and other sections of scripture, we learn that all Christians have been given at least one spiritual gift. The purpose of spiritual gifts is twofold: (1) to encourage one another in our relationship with God and (2) to make God's love manifest in the world. These gifts are to be used in service to God and one another. **Generally speaking, we do not choose which gifts we will receive.** God gives spiritual gifts to us through the work of the Holy Spirit. Not all of the gifts identified in scripture are included in this inventory.

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Tool

The Spiritual Gifts Assessment tool is a quick survey you can take to identify your spiritual gifts. After you have completed the survey, you will receive a document highlighting your spiritual gifts. If you prefer, you can take this assessment on our website at:

<https://www.nativitychurch.org/spiritual-gifts/>

Instructions: For each of the 66 questions which follow, shade in the box to the right of the question corresponding to the number of the response that most closely matches how you perceive yourself. Categories are presented across the top of the inventory.

- 4 consistently true
- 3 frequently true
- 2 occasionally true
- 1 infrequently true
- 0 rarely true

4 consistently true, 3 frequently true, 2 occasionally true, 1 infrequently true, 0 rarely true

4 3 2 1 0

1. When presented with a goal, I immediately think of steps that need to be taken in order to achieve the desired results.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. I express myself through artistic means.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. My faith requires me to seek out God's will and purpose in all circumstances that arise in my life.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. I am able to convey the Gospel message to non-believers in ways that they are able to easily understand.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I am moved by those who, through conflict or sorrow, are wavering in faith.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. I am certain of the Spirit's presence in my life and in the lives of others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. I am blessed by God each day and gladly respond to these blessings by giving liberally of my time and money.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. I enjoy meeting new people and becoming acquainted with them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. I know that God hears and responds to my daily prayers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. I feel compelled to learn as much as I can about the Bible and faith.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11. I am a take-charge person. When others follow my direction, the goal or task will be completed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12. When I see a person in need, I am moved to assist them.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
13. I love to sing and enjoy inspiring others through song.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
14. I find joy and express myself by playing a musical instrument.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
15. I am motivated to provide spiritual leadership to those who are on a faith journey.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
16. I like working behind the scenes to ensure projects are successful.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
17. I enjoy working with my hands in a trade or skill that required considerable experience to perfect.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
18. My great joy is to communicate Biblical truth in such a way that it becomes real and understood by others.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
19. When a challenge is presented, I am usually able to identify an appropriate solution.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. I am able to take a thought or idea and put it into a clear and inspiring written form.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. I enjoy learning about beliefs and customs of people in a different culture.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. I feel compelled to speak out against unjust conditions in society.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. I enjoy organizing thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams into a specific plan of action.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. I can translate into artistic form what I first see in my imagination.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. I have assisted others as they sought to discern whether or not their personal decisions were helpful and in accord with God's will for their lives.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. I enjoy being with non-believers and like having the opportunity to encourage them to faith and commitment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4 consistently true, 3 frequently true, 2 occasionally true, 1 infrequently true, 0 rarely true

4 3 2 1 0

27. When I know someone is facing a crisis, I feel compelled to provide support and care.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
28. My trust in the Spirit's presence, when I encounter times of personal crisis, is a source of strength for others.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
29. I manage my time and money so that I am able to give much of it to the work of the church or other organizations.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
30. I am often asked to open my home for small group gatherings or social occasions.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
31. I see or consider a situation and feel called to pray about it.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
32. Not one day would be complete without Biblical study and thought.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
33. When I am in a group, others will often look to me for direction.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
34. I feel an urgency to provide housing for the homeless, food for the starving, or comfort for those in distress.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
35. I have sung before groups and felt a real sense of God's presence.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
36. By my playing a musical instrument, I am inspired and others are too.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
37. I have responsibility for providing spiritual guidance to an individual believer or group of believers.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
38. People tell me that without my willingness to do the unnoticed jobs, their work would be more difficult.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
39. I am good at building, repairing, or restoring things and find satisfaction in doing so.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
40. I want to express my faith by assisting others to discover the truths contained in the Bible.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
41. People come to me for help in applying Christian faith and values to personal situations.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
42. I often feel moved to write about my thoughts and feelings so others may benefit from them.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
43. I feel drawn to and am comfortable with people of different cultures.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
44. I try to provide an understanding of local and/or global needs and concerns so as to bring about change.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
45. I have been successful in organizing, directing and motivating people to achieve a goal.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
46. My artistic work has given spiritual strength to both believer and non-believer.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
47. In the congregation, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
48. I do not find it difficult to share with non-believers what Jesus means to me.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
49. Those who are struggling with life questions have come to me for guidance and help.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
50. I can see great things happening in my congregation and am not derailed by the pessimism of others.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
51. When I receive money unexpectedly, one of my first thoughts is to share this gift through the church or with others.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
52. I enjoy welcoming guests and helping them to feel at ease.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

4 consistently true, 3 frequently true, 2 occasionally true, 1 infrequently true, 0 rarely true

43210

53. People have asked me to pray for healing in their lives, and have evidenced God's healing power.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
54. My study of the Bible has proven helpful to others in their faith journey.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
55. People have said they like to work with me because the task will be successfully completed.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
56. People have been surprised by how at ease I am while working with those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
57. I am grateful and humbled that my singing has provided inspiration and hope for others on their faith journey.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
58. Others have told me they were moved by my playing a musical instrument.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
59. People have come to me for spiritual help and it has developed into a long-term relationship.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
60. When I turn out the lights, take tables down, work in the kitchen or put chairs away, I feel that I have served the Lord.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
61. My knowledge of building, maintenance or repair has been a special value to the church and others.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
62. Students have told me that I can take the most difficult idea or concept and make it understandable.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
63. When direction is needed at work or in the congregation, I am generally asked for my opinion.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
64. My written work has been helpful to others in understanding life's truths.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
65. I like to share my gifts with people of other cultures, and/or I have professional skills to help them.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
66. I speak up when I witness some act of cruelty or prejudice to another person, even if it is hard for people to hear.	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Scoring Grid

Note: Even though the term "scoring" is used, it is purely so that you can determine where your gifts are strongest. No other value is placed on the gifts you do or don't have. Remember, all gifts are given by the Holy Spirit.

Instructions: Total the rating numbers for the three questions in the column on the left. For each gift there is a set of three questions, which could have a potential score of 0 to 12. The rectangular blocks will total your score as you shade in the number 0 1 2 3 4 for each of the three questions. For example, in the category of Administration, the answers to the three questions equal the numbers 2+4+3, or 9. The bar will be shaded up to the number 9. Once the grid is complete, note that the longer the bar, the stronger the corresponding gift.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Questions 1, 23, 45													Administration

Questions 2, 24, 46													Artistry
Questions 3, 25, 47													Discernment
Questions 4, 26, 48													Evangelism
Questions 5, 27, 49													Encouragement
Questions 6, 28, 50													Faith
Questions 7, 29, 51													Giving
Questions 8, 30, 52													Hospitality
Questions 9, 31, 53													Prayer
Questions 10, 32, 54													Knowledge
Questions 11, 33, 55													Leadership
Questions 12, 34, 56													Mercy
Questions 13, 35, 57													Music-Vocal
Questions 14, 36, 58													Music-Instrumental
Questions 15, 37, 59													Shepherding
Questions 16, 38, 60													Service
Questions 17, 39, 61													Skilled Craft
Questions 18, 40, 62													Teaching
Questions 19, 41, 63													Wisdom
Questions 20, 42, 64													Writing
Questions 21, 43, 65													Cross-Culture/Missionary
Questions 22, 44, 66													Advocate for Justice

Sample Assessment

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
												Administration
												Artistry
												Discernment
												Evangelism
												Encouragement
												Faith
												Giving
												Hospitality
												Prayer
												Knowledge
												Leadership
												Mercy
												Music-Vocal
												Music-Instrumental
												Shepherding
												Service
												Skilled Craft
												Teaching
												Wisdom
												Writing
												Cross-Culture/Missionary
												Advocate for Justice