How can I know my spiritual gifts?

Know Your Gifts
Take the Spiritual Gift Inventory (part of this session). You will find that some gifts are a fit for your personality. You have been using these gifts and talents all your life, but now you can be more intentional about using them to facilitate God’s work. You may see that another gift is one you’ve prayed for at a time of crisis. Through this experience, God has equipped you to support others going through similar trials. Still other gifts are a complete surprise. We wonder what this gift is and become curious and even excited to see it realized in our lives. The gift descriptions will help clarify these gifts further and may give you an overview of God’s plan for your life.

Be Equipped to Serve
The purpose of knowing your gifts is to use them for service in the kingdom of God. You will experience the joy of knowing that you are uniquely called for a specific time, purpose, and ministry. Hopefully, this course will help you to implement your gifts, equipping you to serve where you are most needed and make the greatest impact for Jesus Christ.

Getting Started
Visit www.longhollow.com/serve to learn more about the ministry opportunities that match your spiritual gifts. Remember, most positions of leadership require church membership and completion of a volunteer application. You can take the next step toward church membership by attending Connections, Long Hollow’s church membership class. You can register for the next Connections class at www.longhollow.com/next.

Categorizing Spiritual Gifts
You are a unique creation of God. What does the Spiritual Gifts Inventory reveal about you? After taking the inventory, you’ll see that your gifts fit into four broad categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accountability Gifts</th>
<th>Healing Gifts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhortation</td>
<td>Mercy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>Faith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>Intercession</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shepherding</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discernment</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilitating Gifts</th>
<th>Visionary Gifts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Evangelism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Prophecy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Healing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giving</td>
<td>Deliverance</td>
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<td>Creative Ability</td>
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Upon completing the inventory, you might ask yourself: Into which area do most of my gifts fall? What balancing gifts are needed? Expect to see your gifts fit into two or three categories, but usually not all four categories.

**Applying spiritual gifts**

Some gifts have various applications depending on how they are matched, such as: Giving and Discernment, or Discernment and Deliverance. Here we see two different applications for the gift of Discernment. Other gifts fit together in supportive harmony like Intercession and Faith, or Knowledge and Teaching. The one cannot be effective without the other. Take a look at your gifts and decide which gift fits with another. Below are various combinations frequently seen. God created you as a unique individual and your calling is equally unique in the scope of His divine plan. Pray over your array of gifts. What do they mean for you?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration/Leadership</th>
<th>Teaching/Exhortation</th>
<th>Mercy /Shepherding</th>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
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SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY
Each statement in the questionnaire has five choices. Read each carefully and decide to what extent the statement is true of you. Write that numerical value in the box provided. Your first response is usually the best.

1. Never: 0%
2. Little: 10–40%
3. Some: 40–60%
4. Much: 60–80%
5. Very Much: 80–100%

There are no right or wrong answers. This questionnaire is designed to suggest your spiritual gifts.

The following is true of me...

Place a number at each statement! (1) Never (2) Little (3) Some (4) Much (5) Very Much

___ 1. I have a talent for organizing ideas and tasks to accomplish a goal.
___ 2. God has gifted me with a creative talent that I have used to support the body of Christ.
___ 3. I don’t judge quickly or jump to conclusions but wait on God’s leading.
___ 4. I can see beneath the surface to spot the wrong motives or manipulative behavior of others.
___ 5. God uses me to encourage others to live for Christ.
___ 6. I can discern when people do not know Christ, and I often feel led to share the gospel.
___ 7. I trust that God is working even when I don’t see tangible answers.
___ 8. I investigate Christian causes and ministries that need support before I give.
___ 9. People are helped or healed when I pray for them.
___ 10. I open my home to guests and do not mind unexpected visitors.
___ 11. I set aside time to pray each day and feel convicted by the Holy Spirit when I don’t.
___ 12. I am able to distinguish spiritual truth from error, even when the error is subtle.
___ 13. I have a gift for inspiring others to serve by setting goals and objectives.
___ 14. Suffering, sickness, or poverty inspires me to minister.
___ 15. I have proclaimed God’s Word with conviction and purpose.
___ 16. I like to support the body of Christ by serving where I’m needed.
___ 17. The Lord uses me to equip others for the work of ministry.
___ 18. I quickly sense when adults or children are unclear about biblical teaching, and share the truth from God’s Word.
___ 19. I like to plan activities that involve people.
___ 20. I have a talent for making things work, even with limited resources.
___ 21. I’ve suspected that someone was harassed by evil spirits.
___ 22. I often spot phony persons before others do.
___ 23. I’m glad that others seek my help and advice for personal problems.
___ 24. I want to share the message of salvation with lost and hurting persons.
___ 25. I believe God’s promises even when others doubt.
26. I give cheerfully to Christian causes and would give more if I could.
27. I feel drawn to study and learn more about healing.
28. I notice when little acts of kindness can make the difference for others.
29. I’m faithful to give my pastor and church ministries needed prayer support.
30. I can’t get enough of God’s Word and wish I could study more.
31. I have accepted leadership roles and been successful at helping groups accomplish goals.
32. The compassion I feel for others results in thoughtful deeds of kindness.
33. God has used me to proclaim timely, urgent messages from his Word.
34. I like to offer my assistance when I see that others need help.
35. I would like to be in a position to guide and nurture other believers.
36. I’m fascinated with the many Bible stories and like to share what God has shown me from his Word.
37. I can delegate responsibility to others, matching their skills to a task.
38. I have a desire to use my creative talents in support of God’s kingdom.
39. I sense the difference between demonic influence and human turmoil.
40. I know when others are deceived by false teaching and feel compelled to share the truth from Scripture.
41. When people confide in me, I can lovingly provide biblical answers for life’s problems.
42. God has used me to lead others to Christ.
43. I don’t hesitate to pray for God to work in circumstances that others consider hopeless.
44. I encourage others to give to Christian causes that I feel a burden for.
45. I practice intercessory prayer for physical and emotional wounds.
46. I reach out to others, wanting them to feel valued and significant.
47. I’ve had the experience of praying with conviction for urgent causes and persons not intimately known to me.
48. When error infiltrates scriptural teaching, I am concerned for others and speak up.
49. I enjoy providing oversight to groups and enjoy guiding their success.
50. I sense when others are hurting and express God’s love by reaching out.
51. I have equipped myself to plead the cause of Christ to individuals and groups.
52. I like to do work that allows others to succeed in theirs.
53. I intervene when I see Christians being led astray.
54. God has used me to make Scripture clear and personal to others.
55. I notice when God’s work is hindered by poor organization and wasted resources.
56. I often have original ideas and wish that God could use me more.
57. I have prayed and felt a burden for those in bondage to occult beliefs.
58. I can tell the difference between good and evil in today’s world and feel a burden for those who are deceived.
59. I’ve advised people to study God’s Word for comfort and instruction.
60. I hurt for friends and acquaintances who don’t know Jesus.
61. When I offer to pray for someone, I take the responsibility seriously.
62. I give cheerfully when confronted with financial needs in God’s kingdom.
63. I often pray for sick and hurting persons not intimately known to me.
64. I anticipate the needs of my guests and enjoy making them feel comfortable.
65. I’m not hesitant to offer prayer to hurting persons and will continue to pray on my own afterwards.
66. I can point questioning and confused persons to key passages of Scripture.
67. I would like to motivate groups to specific ministry objectives.
68. I would like to minister God’s love to those with mental or physical disabilities.
69. I want to encourage and build up the body of Christ by offering instruction from God's Word.
70. I can serve God by offering my services in support of ministry.
71. I'm concerned for the welfare of believers and feel compelled to support weaker persons in their faith.
72. I enjoy helping others grow in their understanding of God's Word.
73. God uses me to organize details and people in support of ministry.
74. Others are inspired to worship and grow through my creative talent (music, writing, drama, painting, etc.).
75. I have discerned the presence of evil in persons or circumstances.
76. I pray and investigate unfamiliar causes that claim to be of Christ before I give.
77. Others have been inspired to serve Jesus because of my encouragement.
78. I can share the plan of salvation, making it clear and meaningful to nonbelievers.
79. In the midst of trial and loss, God has used me to encourage others in their faith.
80. I believe that everything I own belongs to Jesus Christ and give regularly to my church.
81. Through God's grace I've overcome obstacles, allowing me to minister his healing to hurting persons.
82. People turn to me for advice because they know I care.
83. I have great inner conviction that prayer is a powerful weapon against evil forces.
84. I spend considerable time studying God's Word as well as the historical and archeological records of biblical times.
85. I sense when groups or individuals are not effective and can offer good oversight.
86. I can be God's hands and feet no matter how hopeless the circumstances.
87. God has given me spiritual insight to speak out boldly against people or issues that bring dishonor to God's kingdom.
88. I'm content to serve behind the scenes and do not need the thanks of men to feel significant.
89. I've been a mentor to struggling Christians, guiding and nurturing their spiritual growth.
90. I hold the interest of groups when I share from God's Word and can provoke meaningful discussion.
91. I can see how details make the difference in planning a successful outcome.
92. I feel energized and inspired when I am presented with a problem others have given up on.
93. I believe miracles, and healings still happen today.
94. I can discern God's prophetic plan in past and current events.
95. I'm sensitive to those who are troubled and hurting, and want to understand their motives and behavior.
96. I've memorized key Bible verses so that I can share the message of salvation.
97. I believe God's Word, even when prayer is not answered as hoped for.
98. I am willing to live below my means so that I can give more to God's kingdom.
99. I can discern when healing prayer is needed for the emotional wounds of others.
100. I know that God is using me when I open my home to friends and strangers.
101. I persist in prayer even if God does not respond immediately.
102. I feel a hunger to read and understand God's Word and want to learn all I can.
103. I maintain integrity and lead by example so that others can trust my authority.
104. Sick and suffering persons are helped when I minister to them.
105. I have the ability to identify social and cultural trends that undermine the teachings of Christ.
106. God uses me to build up and encourage the body of Christ when I help others.
107. I want to be involved in supporting and nurturing new believers.
108. I can speak before groups and like to talk about what God has done for me.