

Understanding Your **MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS**

The seven (7) Motivational Gifts in Romans 12:6 – 8 – Prophecy (Perception), Service, Teaching, Exhortation, Giving, Administration and Compassion.

Benefits of the Motivational Gifts

- You can understand yourself and purpose in life
- Helps you to have a focus in life
- You can enter a Career that matches your gift
- Your Ministry in the Church will be more fulfilling.

1. The Gift of Perception

The perceiver is one who easily notices or understands and declares the will of God /the will of authority in an organization. He meets spiritual needs of others; individuals or group of people and keeps the church or organization centered on spiritual or Godly principles. This is what we term gift **A**.

Characteristics of Perceivers

- I easily and quickly see what is good or bad and hate doing wrong.
- With me, things are right or wrong, bad or evil.
- I can easily know the character a person has.
- I do encourage others to admit when they do wrong.
- I believe problems and difficulties bring about spiritual growth.
- I have only a few or close relationship with others.
- I believe the Bible contains the truth to be applied in all areas of our lives.
- I boldly live my life, directed by spiritual rules (Godly rules).
- I talk about issues as they are and do not seek to please anyone.
- When I speak, people are easily influenced.
- I feel very bad when people do wrong or commit sin.

- I desire to look out for my own faults as well as helping others to see theirs.
- I love to see God's will done in all situations.
- I pray a lot for others, so that the Will of God would be done in their lives.
- I like to demonstrate when reporting what I see.
- I look deep into my own life and consider my actions.
- I stick closely to my strong opinions and beliefs.
- I have strict and personal standards which I follow and observe.
- I have a strong desire to do what is right.
- I desire very much to see God's will done in everything, no matter what.

Problems of the Perceiver

- Tends to be judgmental and blunt
- Forgets to praise partial progress due to goal consciousness
- Is pushy in trying to get others and groups to mature spiritually
- Is intolerant of opinions and views that differ from his own
- Struggles with self-image problems.

*** Biblical example of the Perceiver – John the Baptist**

2. The Gift of Service

The server renders practical service to others and keeps the work of ministry or an organization moving. He conscientiously helps, assists, carries out instructions and gives of himself to be of use in a wide variety of ways. The server receives joy in helping, assisting and carrying out instructions. This is gift **B**.

Characteristics of Servers

- I am able identify and quickly meet the needs of others.
- I enjoy work that involves the use of my hands.
- I always keep things neat and in order.

- I easily remember details and events in time past.
- I enjoy having people around, especially in my house.
- When I start something I wish to complete it.
- I find it difficult to turn down the requests for help from others.
- I care for the needs of others first of all before my own needs.
- I enjoy doing work that can be finished within a short time.
- I express my love for others through my actions than in my words.
- I love to be praised and encouraged by others.
- I do more than I'm asked to do.
- I am happiest when my actions become helpful to someone.
- I do not enjoy leading others in a group.
- I am always active.
- I do not want to be around dirt and places of disorder.
- I want everything to be done in the right way.
- The most important thing in my life is serving others.
- I enjoy doing things myself than asking someone to do it.
- I like to help others in leadership to be successful.

Problems of the Server

- Is critical of others who do not help out with obvious needs
- May neglect own family's needs by being too busy helping others
- May become pushy or interfering in eagerness to help
- Finds it hard to accept being served by others
- Is easily hurt when unappreciated.

***Biblical example of the Server – Martha.**

3. The Gift of Teaching

The teacher researches and teaches what he knows; he ascertains the truth of things that happen. He meets the mental needs of others and keeps them studying and learning. He may teach through writing (papers, articles, dissertations, books etc) rather than in person. This is gift C.

Characteristics of Teachers

- I like to present information in an orderly way to help in an easier understanding.
- I search to make sure that every information I get is true.
- I enjoy studying and researching to know more.
- I enjoy learning and knowing the meanings of words.
- I like using Biblical examples to explain my points.
- I do not like it when people use Scripture wrongly.
- I want everything to be established on the truth.
- I don't allow my personal feelings to influence how I judge things.
- I think words must be properly used.
- I believe facts are more important than the personal feelings one has towards things.
- I always search for the truth in what I learn before I accept it.
- I prefer helping others to grow in their faith than converting unbelievers.
- I feel teaching is the basis for strong Christian life.
- I solve problems by the help of the teachings from the Bible.
- I am among the best in my class.
- I follow principles I have set for myself.
- I control my emotions and feelings.
- I have only a few close friends.
- I base my beliefs and opinions on investigated facts.
- I believe truth has the power to change people.

Problems of the Teacher

- Tends to neglect the practical application of truth
- Is slow to accept viewpoints of others
- Tends develop pride in intellectual ability.
- Tends to be dogmatic and legalistic
- Is easily sidetracked by new interests.

***Biblical example of the Teacher – Apollos**

4. The Gift of Exhortation

The teacher aims for your head; the exhorter aims for your heart. The exhorter is one devoted to making people live life effectively by encouraging personal progress. He meets the psychological needs of others and keeps us applying spiritual truths. All his efforts are geared toward counseling and encouraging other people. This is gift **D**.

Characteristics of Exhorters

- I love to encourage others to live fully and happily.
- I would love to see the response of others when speaking or teaching.
- I enjoy practicing the truth rather than just studying it.
- I prefer learning things that can be used in practical ways.
- I love to tell others what to do in order to grow in their faith.
- I love to work with people.
- I encourage others to develop in their ability to help others.
- I discover the truth through my experiences. I find Biblical support for it.
- I love to help others by giving them advice.
- I would stop giving advice to those who show no sign of change.
- I speak well to the understanding of people.
- I believe trials and problems are very important for personal growth .
- I accept people without judging them.
- People love me because I am positive about everything.
- I prefer to touch people's life through my actions and way of life rather than talking to them about the gospel.
- I am able to take decisions easily.
- I complete anything I start.
- I want to settle issues or problems I face with others quickly.
- I expect a lot from others and myself.

- I need a close friend with whom I could share ideas and thoughts.

Problems of the Exhorter

- Tends to interrupt others in eagerness to give opinions or advice
- Will use scripture out of context to make a point
- May be thorough in prescribing steps of action
- Holds strongly to his own opinion
- Can become overly self-confident.

***Biblical example of the Exhorter – Barnabas.**

5. The Gift of Giving

The giver has an inner motivation and desire to share in love and concern for the needy by giving of himself, his material goods and money. He keeps specific needs provided for. The giver shares several traits of the server and also has the love for the Word of God. This is gift **E**.

Characteristics of Givers

- I easily give out money and other things.
- I love to give without letting others know about it.
- I want to feel part of any work I contribute to.
- I pray for the needs of others and also for their salvation.
- I am happy anytime I am able to meet an important need in a person's life.
- I want gifts given out to be of high quality.
- I don't give unless it is the direction of an inner push or the Holy Spirit.
- I give for both individual needs and also to help the work of God to move forward.
- I see welcoming visitors and guests as an opportunity to give.
- I have the ability to handle money wisely and economically.

- I quickly volunteer to help when the need arises.
- I pray about the amount of money to give before I do.
- I believe it is important to give a tenth of your earnings and more, regularly towards the work of God.
- I give attention to sharing the word of God.
- I believe God is the one who provides my needs.
- I work hard because I want to be successful in what I do.
- I am good at making money.
- I'm careful not to waste money on things.
- I do not allow myself to be fooled by what others tell me.
- I have both natural and God- given wisdom.

Problems of the Giver

- May try to control how contributions are used.
- Tends to pressure others to give.
- May upset family and friends with unpredictable patterns of giving.
- Tends to spoil own children or other relatives.
- May use financial giving to get out of other responsibilities.

***Biblical example of the Giver – Abraham.**

6. The Gift of Administration

The administrator is the one who finds the work of leadership easy to do. He is highly motivated to give leadership and direction. Other words to use to describe this gift include: facilitator, organizer, ruler and leader. He meets the functional needs of the church or the organization. He raises their vision. This is gift **F**.

Characteristics of Administrators

- I love to organize events and programmes when it is my responsibility.
- I am able to talk well for people to understand.
- I love working under someone's leadership so that I could also learn to be a leader with authority.
- I will not take up leadership unless I am called to do so.
- I will only take up leadership responsibility when the organization does not have someone.
- I love to work on projects and goals that will take time to be completed.
- I can easily see the picture of what needs to be done.
- I am good at selecting people and providing what is needed for a job to be done..
- I enjoy supervising people I invite to help me do some work.
- I accept negative comments people make concerning the things I do so far as it is right.
- I enjoy whatever I do.
- I enjoy it when I work with the mind of being successful at whatever I do.
- I am happy when those who work with me get the praise for what we do.
- I prefer to move on to something else after completing one work.
- I write things to myself to make me aware of what to do.
- I was born a good leader.
- I change my ways of doing things from time to time when it is necessary.
- I enjoy working with and around people.
- I would like to see things started completed quickly.
- I don't enjoy doing the something over and over again or for a long time.

Problems of the Administrator

- Becomes upset when others do not share the same vision or goals
- Develops outer callousness due to being a target for criticism
- Can regress into 'using' people to accomplish own goals
- Tends to drive self and neglect personal and family needs
- Neglects routine home responsibilities due to intense interest in 'job'.

***Biblical example of the Administrator – Joseph.**

7. The Gift of Compassion

The compassion person cheerfully and promptly demonstrates in action, compassion or mercy for those who are sick or in misery, either physically or spiritually. He provides personal and emotional support and keeps people in right attitudes and relationships. This is gift G.

Characteristics of Compassionate Persons

- I always show love.
- I always look for the good in people and make them feel good.
- I able to know what am happening to a person or a group of people from the atmosphere around them.
- I enjoy getting close to people who have problems.
- I help people overcome their problems.
- I care so much for the unseen hurts of people than what they show.
- I help people relate well with one another.
- I love to give others the best opportunities or best places in life.
- I try to avoid words and acts which hurt others.
- I can easily tell it when person does something with a wrong motive.
- I am attracted to people who show compassion to others.
- I love to do pleasant and unexpected things for others.
- I trust people and can also be trusted.
- I do not like quarreling with others.
- I love to take my time in doing things and not to be rushed.
- I'm usually happy.
- My heart moves me to act more than how I think.
- I rejoice when things go well with people and I am sad when I see people hurting.
- I strongly support good things.
- I pray a lot for the problems and pains of others.

Problems of the Compassion Person

- Tends to be indecisive
- Is often prone to take up another person's office
- Is easily hurt by others
- Empathizes too much with the suffering of others
- Affectionate nature is often misinterpreted by opposite sex.

***Biblical example of the Compassion Person – The Good Samaritan.**