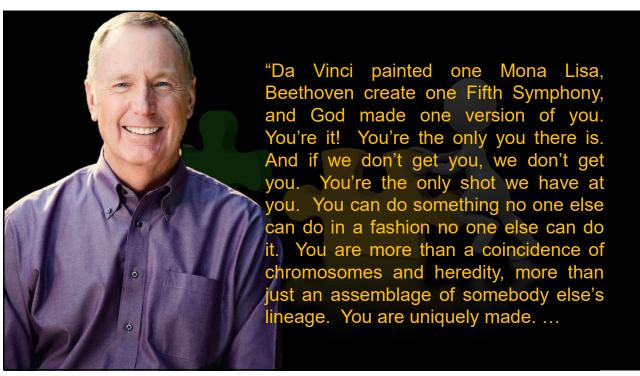


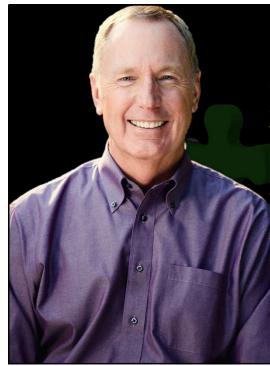


You are S.H.A.P.E.D. to fulfill God's Kingdom purpose in your life.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10

Workmanship = "poiema": work of art





But can you be anything you want to be? If you don't have the sense that takes care of numbers, can you be accountant? If you don't have a love for the dirt, can you be a farmer? If you don't have an appreciation and a devotion to kids, can you really be a teacher? Well, an unhappy one, Can you be anything unsatisfied one. you want to be? I don't think so. But can you be everything God wants you to be? You become that by do think so. discovering your uniqueness

Max Lucado, Cure for the Common Life

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We will give an account to God for how we use our S.H.A.P.E. to serve in His Kingdom plan.



"If you don't understand your shape, you end up doing things that God never intended or designed you to do. When your gifts do not meet the role you play in life, you feel like a square peg in a round hole. This is frustrating, both to you and to others. Not only does it produce limited results, it is also an enormous waste of your talents, time, & energy."

Spiritual gift: a special and specific ability or skill given supernaturally to every believer by the Holy Spirit to perform a specific function within the body of Christ with ease and effectiveness.

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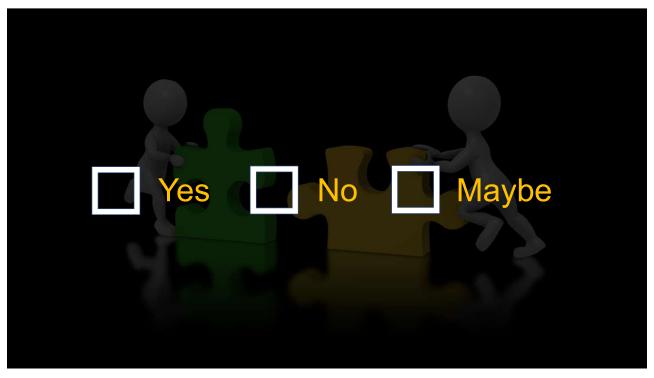
Every born again believer receives at least one spiritual gift. Some may receive more than one at conversion or as they mature spiritually.



Spiritual gifts can be divided into three groups: • Speaking gifts • Service gifts • Sign gifts



1 Cor 12:4-7,11-12,18-20 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. ⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: ... ¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. ¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. ... ¹⁸ But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. ¹⁹ And if they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.



1. Preaching/Prophecy: prophateia – pro "forth for" and phateia "to speak" = to speak forth

The ability to publicly communicate God's Word in an inspired way that both convinces unbelievers and challenges/comforts believers. The ability to persuasively declare God's will.

- Are known for publicly communicating God's Word, using a variety of means.
- Love to share their strong biblical convictions with others.
- Find it easy to confront others' motives when they are not up to God's standards.
- Frequently receive and share messages directly from God for comforting, challenging, and confronting His people.

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2. Teaching: The ability to educate God's people by clearly explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn. The ability to equip and train other believers for ministry.

- Are given to hours in the study of Scripture in order to best apply its principles and truth.
- Enjoy making the Bible clear and understandable to others.
- Are good at helping others to learn to study the Bible.
- Seek out opportunities to speak biblical insight into daily situations.

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3. Word of knowledge: ginosis – "to know by observation and experience"

The ability to discover, collect, analyze, and organize information that is vital to individual believers or the entire church family. The ability to comprehend a large amount of information and provide it when needed for effective decision-making.

- Devote much of their time to reading Scripture.
- · Love to share biblical insight.
- Enjoy helping others increase their understanding of God's Word.
- Take delight in answering difficult questions about God's Word.

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4. Wisdom: sophia – "to taste"

The ability to understand God's perspective on life situations and share those insights in a simple, understandable way. The ability to explain what to do and how to do it.

- Are known for making correct decisions and judgments.
- Enjoy speaking biblical insights into life situations.
- Are sought after by others for advice/wisdom.
- Take pleasure in counseling others.

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5. Pastoring/Shepherding: The ability to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers and equip them for ministry. The ability to nurture a small group in spiritual growth and assume responsibility for their welfare.

- Enjoy serving others and are driven to help them reach their full potential in Christ.
- Are good at developing personal, trust-based relationships with people.
- Have a propensity toward meeting the needs of others, willingly giving their time to help them with spiritual issues.
- Believe that people take precedence over projects.

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6. Evangelism: The ability to communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to unbelievers in a positive, non-threatening, abnormally fruitful way. The ability to sense opportunities to share Christ and lead people to respond with faith.

- Are deeply burdened for those who don't know Jesus.
- Look for ways to build relational bridges with nonbelievers.
- Sense when a person is open to Christ's message.
- Have likely seen many people come to faith in Jesus.

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7. Faith: pistis – "a trust or a conviction about something or someone"

The ability to believe God and His word in the face of extraordinary and challenging situations.

- Tend to have a positive attitude at all times.
- Possess unshakeable faith in God's promises.
- Expect God to fulfill His promises in every situation no matter how difficult
- Cause others' faith to increase.

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8. Encouragement/Exhortation: paraklasis – para "beside, alongside" and klasis "to call" = one called alongside another

The ability to motivate God's people to apply and act on biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or wavering in their faith. The ability to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential.

- Are driven to inspire others and are natural encouragers in words & actions.
- Rejoice with those who've overcome difficult life situations.
- Seek out opportunities to help others reach their full potential in Christ.
- Rejoice at other' success.

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9. Discerning of spirits: diakrisis – dia "through" and krisis "to judge, divide"

pneumation - "spirits" = judging through a person's speech and actions to discern the spirit behind them

The God-given special ability to serve and strengthen the body of Christ by recognizing truth, error, or the demonic within a message, person, or event.

- Perceive when the truth is twisted or communicated with error.
- Recognize the spiritual source of a message whether it is from God, Satan, or man.
- Find it easy to "read" others and are most often right.
- Recognize inconsistencies in others.
- Easily identify people's true motives and agendas.

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How do I discover my spiritual gift?

Most get hung up on knowing their specific spiritual gift. This generally takes time and assistance (often by trial and error) to finally find what God has specifically gifted us to do. Spiritual gifts are more easily discovered through serving than through searching.

Even though it is important that believers discover their spiritual gifts; it is even more important that the believer be willing to serve where needed. Although we must eventually perform most of our service in the "area of our giftedness", we must develop a "serving heart." Quite often we "discover" our gifts as we faithfully serve – when our primary motivation is service to Jesus rather than personal benefit.

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