SOAR
DISCIPLESHIP COLLEGE

MODULE 3: UNWRAP YOUR GIFT

WEEK 1: THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE GIFTS AND CALLINGS – 1 Corinthians 12: 1-6

There are gifts and callings in the Word of God, to give us clear-cut direction. These are:

1. Gifts to the body to teach and instruct us **Ephesians 4: 11-12**
   The five-fold ministry gifts (a call on your life)

2. The gifts of the Spirit **1 Corinthians 12: 1 - 11**
   Nine gifts of the Spirit (Spirit upon)



3. The motivational gifts.
   Romans 12: 4-8
   Ministry of Helps

4. The fruits of the Spirit.
   Galatians 5: 22-23
   (Spirit within)

The dove has 9 major feathers on each wing and 5 major feathers on the tail:

- 9 Gifts of the Spirit
- 9 Fruits of the Spirit
- Five-fold ministry

The foundation for the gifts to operate is love and unity. **1 Cor 2: 9-12 & Matt 3: 16**

NINE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering / Patience
- Gentleness
- Goodness
- Faith / Faithfulness
- Meekness
- Temperance/ self-control

Love is the sum total of the character of God. Love's expression is joy, longsuffering, etc. Love is manifest in the following: Joy is Love's strength; peace is Love's security; longsuffering is Love's patience; gentleness is Love's conduct; faithfulness is Love's confidence; meekness is Love's humility and temperance is Love's victory. Against such there is no law. Without love we are a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. **Gal 5: 23**

NINE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

• Word of Wisdom • Word of Knowledge • Discerning of spirits	(Revelation gifts: they reveal something)
• Gift of Faith • Gift of Healings • Working of Miracles	(Power gifts: they do something)
• Prophecy • Diverse kinds of Tongues • Interpretation of Tongues	(Utterance gifts: they say something)

THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY:

This will not apply to everyone. The reason being God has given the five-fold ministry to the body in a full-time capacity, to teach, nurture and equip them until the body reaches maturity.
Eph 4: 8-12 & Eph 4: 12-13

- Apostle
- Prophet
- Evangelist
- Pastor
- Teacher

1. Apostle means sent one. The word we use is missionary. Jesus was called the Apostle of faith.
2. The Prophets are the ones who point and reveal, point to the past and future and ties them together with the present.
3. The Evangelist goes and preaches to the world to draw them into the body of Christ.
4. The Pastor is the ring finger and closest to the heart - the Pastor is married to the flock.
5. The Teacher is the small finger, not at the least because the small finger is the only one that can reach down into the ear of a man.



- Sometimes people can have two or three of these ministry gifts.
- Jesus had all of them. Some of us are not called to five-fold ministry, but God never left us as orphans.
- Somewhere amongst all of the gifts you will locate yourself.

WEEK 2: GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

On this course we want to assist you in the process of growing in Christ, growing as a unique individual into the best you, you can be.

> *"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. Therefore, I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all"* **1 Cor 12:1-7 NKJV**

Chapter 12

vs1: The Corinthians misunderstood the manner in which the Holy Spirit works through individuals, and they abused the use of spiritual gifts, apparently regarding them as ends in themselves. In particular, they misunderstood the proper public use of the Gift of Tongues and it often confused the order in their meetings. They also misunderstood the power of the Spirit, viewing gift-operations of the Spirit as a compulsive possession, negating the will.

> *"The spirits of prophets are subject to prophets."* **1 Cor 14: 32**

- Paul responds to this problem by showing the need for varied and multiple manifestations of the Spirit (ch.12);
- The need for loving and unselfish motives in these manifestations (ch.13);
- The need for self-control and for keeping an orderly, edifying manner in corporate services (ch.14).

vs2-3: Paul introduces three guiding principles that distinguish the ways of the Holy Spirit:

- The principle of conscious control. Unlike paganism, the power of the Holy Spirit does not drive people into wild compulsive acts. His gentle dove-like ministry strengthens human personality. He empowers; He does not overpower.
- The principle that Christ is glorified. All manifestations of the Spirit will harmonize with the truth about Jesus.
- The principle of faith. The main work of the Holy Spirit is to bring people under the lordship of Jesus.

vs4-6: The reference to the Trinity in these verses (Spirit, Lord, and God) reveals the unity of the work of God among His people. The various gifts, ministries, and activities that are manifested in their midst underscore God's desire to bless, serve, and be active in the lives of His unique people.

vs7: Paul identifies a spiritual gift as a supernatural ability bestowed on an individual by the Holy Spirit, not as a heightened natural ability. Thus, each gift is a manifestation of the Spirit, that is, visible evidence of His activity. The Holy Spirit bestows the gifts to whom He wills as the occasion

recommends from the divine viewpoint.

> *"…for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills"* **1 Cor 12:8-11 NKJV**

vs8-11: These nine gifts specify the varied distribution necessary for a full manifestation of the Spirit:

The Nine GIFTS of the Holy Spirit:

The first set of three. *Revelation gifts: they reveal something*

- Word of Wisdom,
- Word of Knowledge
- Discerning of Spirits.

The Word of Wisdom is a spiritual utterance at a given moment through the Spirit, supernaturally disclosing the mind, purpose, and will of God as applied to a specific situation.

The Word of Knowledge is a supernatural revelation of information pertaining to a person or an event, given for a specific purpose, usually having to do with an immediate need.

The Discerning of Spirits is the ability to discern the spirit world, and especially to detect the true source of something, is it demonic or Godly?

The second set of three: *Power gifts: they do something.*

- The Gift of Faith
- The Gift of Healings
- The Working of Miracles.

The Gift of Faith is a unique form of faith that goes beyond natural faith and saving faith. It supernaturally trusts and does not doubt with reference to the specific matters involved.

The Gifts of Healings are those healings that God performs supernaturally by the Spirit. The plural suggests that as there are many sicknesses and diseases, the gift is related to healings of many disorders.

The Working of Miracles is a manifestation of power beyond the ordinary course of natural law. It is a Divine enablement to do something that could not be done naturally.

The third set of three: *Utterance gifts: they say something*

- Prophecy.

- Diverse kinds of Tongues.
- Interpretation of Tongues.

Prophecy is a divine disclosure on behalf of the Spirit, an edifying revelation of the Spirit.

- For the moment (**14:3**),
- A sudden insight of the Spirit, prompting exhortation or comfort (**14:3 & 30**).

Different Kinds of Tongues is the gift of speaking supernaturally in a language not known to the individual. The plural allows different forms, with a specific inspiration.

The Interpretation of Tongues is the gift of rendering the transrational (but not irrational) message of the Spirit meaningful to others when exercised in public. It is not the translation of a foreign language.

Note: None of the gifts require a "public" setting, although each may and should be welcomed in corporate gatherings.

Devotion to God becomes truly dynamic when the Holy Spirit is allowed free access in our lives to teach us, to give us gifts, and to manifest the presence of the Lord. Welcome the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in your life. Be sincerely and eagerly available to receive any of the gifts of the Spirit that He would minister through you. There is nothing more exciting and wonderfully fulfilling than deeply knowing, loving, and experiencing a close, intimate relationship with God the Father, Jesus the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

WEEK 3: THE MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS

WHAT IS A MOTIVATIONAL GIFT? Romans 12: 4-8

Motivation is the thing that moves us. It is the fueled sparkplug that ignites and excites us. It's the things we see as important and find easy to do. Our motivations are the real factors behind our decisions and actions. They explain WHY we do the thing the way we do.

Therefore, when a person knows his motivational gift, he is given a real clue to his own self-understanding. Also, when you understand your partner's motivational gift it will bring great understanding and unity into the relationship.

We are not to imagine that having a primary motivational gift limits us from doing many things for the Lord. We are actually to do all seven of the things listed under the motivational gifts.

However, most of us do one thing best. We are personally the most fulfilled and the most fruitful with others when we know our motivation and concentrate on it.
This is what Paul is saying in **Rom 12: 3 -8**

vs 3: we are to think clearly about our limitations.

v 4 -5: emphasis is placed on our individuality and the individual gifts combined together make up a completely unified body.

v 6 -8: we are to concentrate on using the gifts that God has given us.

> *"It is a wise man who stays within the sphere of service for which God has fitted him and does not invade some other field of service for which he is not fitted."*

HOW DID THEY OPERATE IN THE LIFE OF JESUS?

John 3: 34 because Jesus had a full anointing of the Holy Spirit He had all 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit operating perfectly in His life, all 5 ministry gifts and also the 7 motivational gifts. We see Jesus as:

- **Prophet** Matthew 21 v 10 - **11;** Mark 6 v 14
- **Servant** Luke 22 v 27; Mark 10 v 45
- **Teacher** Luke 4 v 31 - 32; Matthew 5 v 12
- **Exhorter** Luke 8 v 50; John 8 v 3 - 11
- **Giver** John 10 v 28; Matthew **1**6 v 19
- **Ruler** Mark 6 v 39 - 45; John 6 v 12
- **Mercy person** Luke 7 v 13; Matthew 9 v 36

LOCATE YOURSELF

Prophetic (insight): declaring truth, insight.

The ability to "see" where people or programs really are. The motivation to make motives right and shapes our spiritual lives.

1. **Serving:** Practical assistance, help.

   - The ability to see and do things that need to be done.
   - The motivation to demonstrate love by meeting practical needs and rendering assistance.
   - Meets practical needs.

2. **Teaching:** clarifying truths, indoctrination.

   - The ability to impart knowledge and to lead others into revealed truth.
   - The motivation to search out and validate truth which has been declared.
   - Meets mental and spiritual needs.

3. **Exhorting:** Personal progress, encouragement.

   - The ability to encourage people to grow and to meet successfully the experience of life.
   - The motivation to stimulate the faith and personal growth of others.
   - Meets personal needs.

4. **Giving:** special sharing of material assistance. The ability to handle and give assets.

   - The motivation to see the needs of the work of God and the ministry of others go forward and succeed.
   - Meets financial and material needs.

5. **Ruling:** organizing, giving leadership aid.

   - The ability to see long-range goals and to use others in the right tasks.
   - The motivation to co-ordinate the activities of others to achieve common goals.
   - Meets financial and material needs.

6. **Showing mercy:** personal support, empathizing.

- The ability to feel where people are and to identify with their needs.
- The motivation to identify with and to relieve those who are in distress.
- Meets sympathetic and emotional needs.

HERE IS A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE

Seven people who all happen to have one of the 7 motivational gifts are having supper and Bill knocks over his seafood cocktail bowl, and it breaks.

HOW DOES EACH ONE REACT?

- Prophecy: you should have been more careful...
- Servant: don't worry, I'll clean it up and get you another...
- Teacher: if these cocktail bowls did not have such small bases and were not so top heavy, they would not fall over so easily...
- Exhorter: never mind, it happens in the best of families...
- Giver: forget it, there's plenty more where that came from...
- Organizer: Jim, clean it up and Mary get Bill another one...
- Mercy: don't feel bad, I spilt a whole bowl of soup over the table last week...

FOR WHAT PURPOSE SHOULD WE USE OUR MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS? 1 Pet 4 : 10 -11

- As good stewards of that which God has entrusted to us we should use our gifts in **serving** one another.
- These are the gifts of God to us and are to be exercised in the **strength which God supplies.**
- As these gifts meet the needs of others they are to bring **glory to God.**

ARE THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS, THE 9 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE 7 MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS RELATED?

- Beside the fact that all gifts come from God, they are not necessarily related in any other way. **1 Cor 12: 8-11**
- The Holy Spirit operates these through yielded vessels, just as He wills. **1 Cor 12**
- **Ephesians 4 v 11**
- **Romans 12: 6-8**

You will notice prophecy or prophets are mentioned in all three lists but are not necessarily related. A person can have all the motivational gifts of prophecy without ever standing in the office of a prophet or ever prophesying in church.

POINTS TO PONDER BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO DISCOVER YOUR BASIC GIFT.

1. When you consider that Paul's listing of the seven basic gifts in Romans 12, follows on from his earnest appeal "to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, which is your reasonable service", Reasonable=Basic action
    - Flush the toilet after using it.
    - Throw empty packet in the bin after unpacking the groceries.
    - Do a ministry task.

2. Remember that our natural talents and aptitudes are often the natural wrapping in which a spiritual gift may be deposited. God's gifts are often in line with a natural ability, and this is why our natural faculties often point the direction in which a spiritual gift may be used.

3. The absence of any particular gift does not excuse us from obedience to other Scriptural

commands. If a person does not feel he has a gift of "giving" he is still expected to support the Lord's work financially. Similarly, if a Christian does not possess the gift of "sympathy" he is still expected to show mercy and comfort the feebleminded **(1 Thes 5:14)**.

This may raise the question: *"If we* are *all expected to* do so *much where is the need for specific gifts?"* in some ways the Church is like a football field in which although the players each have a separate function, all are expected to try and get a goal. Each one of us have a responsibility to work for Christ, but a major part of our work must be along the line of the spiritual gift (or gifts) which we have been given.

1. Confirmation that you have a certain basic gift will also come through the discernment of other believers. In fact, other Christians may see a gift in you long before you yourself are aware of it. It helps to prayerfully share with other Christians your conclusions before attempting to develop your gifts.

2. A peace prevails in us when we are in the centre of God's will, so joy arises when exercising a basic gift. This inner joy is often a clue to the presence of a gift, and this is often unconsciously communicated to those on the receiving end of your ministry.

3. Once you discover you have a basic gift, don't go around telling everyone, but adopt the attitude described by Paul in **Phil 2:3**

   "Don't be selfish; don't live to make a good impression on others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourself. Don't just think about your own affairs, but be interested in others, too, and in what they are doing"

WATCH FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO MINISTER YOUR BASIC SPIRITUAL ABILITIES AND BE QUICK TO DO WHAT GOD IS SHOWING YOU

QUESTIONAIRE

Approach the matter by asking God to help you find a truthful answer to each question. All God's children have gifts.

Alongside are 35 statements which may help you discover your basic gift or gifts. Rate yourself with the following scale by writing the appropriate number in the corresponding number square. Ask yourself: "Is this statement true in my spiritual life and experience?" Indicate your score in the appropriate number square on the following scale.

Greatly 3	Some2	Little 1	Not at all 0

1. I enjoy presenting God's truth in an inspired and enthusiastic way.
2. I am always ready to overlook my own personal comfort in order that the needs of others may be met.
3. I find great delight in explaining the truth of a text within its context.
4. I am able to verbally encourage those who waver and are spiritually troubled.
5. I am able to manage my financial affairs efficiently so that I can give generously to the Lord's work.
6. I find it easy to delegate responsibility and organize others towards spiritual achievement.
7. I readily find myself sympathizing with the misfortune of others.
8. I am conscious of a persuasiveness of speech when encouraging people to examine their spiritual motives.
9. I have the knack of making people feel at home.
10. I delight in digging out facts concerning the Bible so that I can pass them on to others.
11. I have a deep concern to encourage people toward spiritual growth and achievement.
12. I am cheerful about giving material assets so that the Lord's work can be furthered.
13. I am able to effectively supervise the activities of others.
14. I enjoy visiting those in hospital, or the shut-ins.
15. I am able to present the Word of God to a congregation of people with clarity and conviction.
16. I am happy when asked to assist others in the Lord's work.
17. I am concerned that truth should be presented in a clear fashion with proper attention to the meaning of words.
18. I am at my best when treating those who are spiritually wounded.
19. I have no problem in joyfully entrusting my assets to others for the work of the ministry.
20. I am able to plan the actions of others with ease and supply them with details which will enable them to work efficiently.
21. I have great concern for those involved in trouble.
22. I find myself preaching for a verdict whenever I present the truths of the Word of God.
23. I delight in providing a gracious haven for guests.
24. I am diligent in my study of the Bible and give careful attention to necessary re-search.
25. I am able to help those who need counselling over personal problems.

26. I am concerned over the question of financial assistance being available for all sections of the church.
27. I am deeply sensitive to the need of a smooth-running administration so that every phase of activity is carried out decently and in order.
28. I work happily with those who are ignored by the majority.
29. I find my preaching brings people to a definite point of decision.
30. I enjoy taking the load from key people so that they can put more effort in to their own particular task.
31. I am able to explain well how the Bible hangs together.
32. I am acutely aware of the things that hold people back in their spiritual development and long to help them overcome their problems.
33. I am careful with money and continually pray over its proper distribution in the work of the Lord.
34. I know where I am going and am able to take others with me.
35. I am able to relate to others emotionally and am quick to help when help is needed.

After you have completed the text by rating yourself for each of the 35 statements, add the scores in each horizontal row. Record the number in the Total column in the chart on the next page to help find and develop your unique ministry

- Your total score for each row indicates your level of interest in that particular gift.
- The highest scores may lead you to a clearer understanding of the basic spiritual gift or gifts which God has deposited in your life.

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						Total	Gift
Row A	1	8	15	22	29	____	_____
Row B	2	9	16	23	30	____	_____
RowC	3	10	17	24	31	____	_____
RowD	4	11	18	25	32	____	_____
Row E	5	12	19	26	33	____	_____
Row F	6	13	20	27	34	____	_____
RowG	7	14	21	28	35	____	_____

Row A -Prophecy;
Row B -Serving;
Row C -Teaching;
Row D -Stimulating the faith of others;
Row E -Giving;
Row F -Ruling or coordinating;
Row G -Sympathy

Once you have discovered your basic gift - what next? Ask God to flood your life with His Holy Spirit so that you will become inwardly sensitive to the best gifts to expand and amplify your ministry. These Gifts of the Spirit are described and defined in I Corinthians 12.

If God, in His sovereignty has ordained you to function in the role of an apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher or evangelist then this will become apparent to you through the recognition of those of your own local body, and by a spiritual witness to your own heart. Don't be over concerned with aiming at being an apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher or evangelist. Concentrate on the depth of your ministry, and God will concentrate on the breadth.

WEEK 4: THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

"…so that there should be no division in the body, but that its members should have mutual concern for one another. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each of you is a member of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, and those with gifts of healing, helping, administration, and various tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way." **1 Cor 12:25-31 BSB**

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but hove not love, I hove become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I hove the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I hove all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but hove not love, I om nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but hove not love, it profits me nothing." **1 Cor 13:1-3 NKJV**

"Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy."
1 Cor 14:1 NKJV

WHY DO WE SERVE ANYWAY?

There is a twofold biblical purpose for serving. We ore to

- Glorify God
- Edify others

There are two key passages:

- **The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20 v 1 - 17)**
    - Don't hove other gods
    - Don't worship idols
    - Don't take God's name in vain
    - Remember the Sabbath
      (focus of these four is "God" and how we ore to love Him)
    - Honour your parents
    - Don't murder
    - Don't commit adultery
    - Don't steal
    - Don't be a false witness
    - Don't covet
      (focus of these six is "others" and how we ore to love them).

- **The Great Commandment**

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." All the Low and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." **Matt 22: 37-40**

In these Old and New Testament passages we see the Bible's twofold emphasis. We are to

- Love or glorify God
- Love or edify others

Our serving glorifies God because it is a form of worship.

"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship." **Rom 12: 1**

"Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever.Amen." **1 Pet 4: 11**

Our serving builds up or edifies others.

"It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare [equip] God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up [edified]." **Eph 4: 11-12**

The test of service: when we serve, does it glorify God and edify others?

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another."
Gal 5:22-26 NKJV.

Have you ever bit into a piece of fruit that was perfectly ripe and tasty? It's a satisfying experience and a wonderful treat for your taste buds. All believers have the fruit of Spirit available to them. You don't have to ask God for love, joy, or peace, you already have it in you. Some people spend time cultivating their fruit so that it's flourishing; while others tend to neglect their fruit and it becomes unproductive.

LOVE

"Dear children let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth".
1 John 3:18 NKJV

The fruit of love keeps on loving even when it's difficult to show affection to others. The capacity to love grows out of the Agape love we have received from our heavenly Father. Love will enable us to

appreciate our brothers and sisters in the Lord, and, of course, our family and others around us. Love is taking the initiative to build up and meet the needs of others, without expecting anything in return. **(1 Cor 13: 3 / Rom 5:1-6)**

JOY

> *"For the joy of the Lord is your strength"* **Neh 8:10 NKJV**

Joy will allow us to enjoy our relationship with Christ, His creation, others, and our circumstances, with an expression of delight, and real, authentic happiness from and with harmony with God and others. **(John 15:11 / 17:13 / 1 Peter 4:13- 19)**

PEACE

> *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."* **Phil 4: 6-8**

Peace is surrendering and yielding ourselves to the Lord, to be in His control, for He is our ultimate peace! Allowing tranquillity to be our tone, control, and our composure. This will be fuelled from our harmonious relationship with God, handing over control of our heart, will,
and mind to Him. Once we make real peace with God, we will be able to make and maintain peace with others. **(Isaiah. 26:3 / Matthew 5:9 / Colossians 3:15)**

PATIENCE / LONGSUFFERING

> *"Being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience."* **Col 1:11**

Patience is showing tolerance and fortitude toward others, even accepting difficult situations from them, and God, without making demands or conditions. Patience allows us to endure a less than desirable situation, to make us better, more useful, and even optimistic and prudent. Hence, its other name, longsuffering. It allows us to put up with others who get on our nerves, without losing other characteristics of grace. **(James 1: 3-4, 12; 5: 10-11)**

KINDNESS

> *"And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful".* **2 Tim 2: 24**

A gentle word or act of Kindness, a soft answer, or a helping hand-all demonstrate the fruit of kindness in this culture of rudeness and selfishness. Kindness is the medium through which Christ's love becomes tangible through us. It is practicing benevolence and a loving attitude towards others. Kindness is the essence that shows the world that we are a Christian**.**
(Eph 4: 32; Col 3: 12-14; 1 John 3: 16-23)

GOODNESS

"Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God." **3 John 1:11**

Goodness displays integrity, honesty and compassion to others, and allows us to do the right thing. It is doing the right thing, even when it does not feel like we should, it's making the best of the situation and turning it into something good, and it will help and treat others better than they need to be. **(Rom 12: 17 / Eph 5: 8-11 / 1 Pet 3: 11)**

FAITHFULNESS

> *"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove Faithful."* **1 Cor 4: 2**

Your faithfulness represents God's Spirit dwelling within. Faithfulness is the application of our faith in action, fused with being dependable. It is not faith itself, rather, the fruit and character of faith. It is the "gluing" fruit that will preserve our faith, and the other characters of the Spirit, and identify God's will, so we can be dependable and trusting to God and others.

Faithfulness is authenticity, the power and motivation for Christian living. Because God is trustworthy with us, we can be faith worthy in Him! **(Matt 25: 21 / Rom 1 : 17 / 1 Thes 5: 24)**

GENTLENESS / MEEKNESS

> *"Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."* **Phil 4: 5 NKJV**

A spirit of gentleness gives grace freely and consistently, it's not harsh or legalistic.
Gentleness is the character that will show calmness, personal care, and tenderness in meeting the needs of others. **(Eph 4: 1-2 / 2 Tim 2: 24 / 1 Thes 2: 7)**

TEMPERANCE/ SELF CONTROL

> *"For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."* **Titus 2:11-12 NKJV**

Self-Control is allowing God to be in control of our will and heart and seeking the Spirit to enable us. Then we will know what not to do and guard the areas in which we are weak. This will allow us to have discipline and restraint, with obedience to God and others. It is not allowing distractions to derail or remove us from His will and plan, so we will not be held back from what Christ called us to do.
(1 Cor 9: 25-27 / Titus 2:12 / 2 Pet 1: 5-7)

FINAL THOUGHTS

Are you at 10%, 50% or 100% in your fruit productivity? What matters most is that you don't give up growing spiritual fruit. The Fruit of the Spirit is God's power in us, enabling us to live for Him victoriously and with excellence! He feeds us the spiritual food, pays our spiritual debt, and gives us knowledge and the assets to be godly and good. If we truly trust in Christ not just as Saviour but also as LORD we live a life of fullness, distinction of character, and spiritual maturity glorifying Him by our lives.

> *"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."*
> ***John 15: 8***

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT INVENTORY

1. **LOVE:** the ability to unconditionally accept others; to give ourselves in service to others without expecting anything in return.
   (Luke 6:35, John 3:16, John 3:34-35 and 1 Cor 13:4-7)

2. **JOY:** a deep, inner gladness that comes from your relationship with Jesus Christ.
   (John 15:10-11, John 17:13, Acts 13:52, Rom 14:17-18 and Rom 15:13)

3. **PEACE:** an inner harmony and sense of being based on our faith that God is in control no matter what happens.
   (Isaiah 32:17, John 16: 33, Phil 4: 4-7 and Rom 5: 1)

4. **PATIENCE:** ability to show restraint and calm in waiting on God, despite circumstances that may cause us to get angry.
   (Col 3: 12-13, Eph 4: 2, 2 Tim 4: 2 and 1 Thes 5:14)

5. **KINDNESS:** ability to treat others with openness, sensitivity and love and to share the kindness that comes from God.
   (Rom 2: 4, Rom 11: 22, Eph 2: 6-7 and 2 Pet 1: 5-8)

6. **GOODNESS:** having the nature of God, able to tell right from wrong, doing good to others and avoid evil.
   (Matt 19: 17, Mark 10:18, Rom 15:14 and Eph 5: 8-11)

7. **FAITHFULNESS:** unshakable loyalty, shows in being trustworthy, reliable, responsible and carrying out our commitments to God and others.
   (Matt 23: 23-24, John 3, 1 Cor 4: 1-2 & 17 and Heb 10: 23)

8. **GENTLENESS:** showing consideration and thoughtfulness, putting my rights and strength under God's control to seek peace. It requires openness, humility, a teachable spirit.
   (Matt 11 : 29, Eph 4: 2-3, Titus 3: 1-2, 1 Cor 4: 21 and 1 Tim 6: 1)

9. **SELF-CONTROL:** to take authority over oneself and exercise discipline to avoid sin and live a life that pleases God.
   (1 Cor 6:12 and 2 Pet 1 :5-6)

EVALUATING YOUR FRUIT

Based on your personal experience, respond to the following statements: Use the number system to rank each:

1 True every once in a while	**2** True most of the time	**3** Definitely true for me

1	I am grateful that God loved the world (and me!) & that He gave His Son.
2	God's presence makes me glad.
3	I rest in the fact that God is in control of all things: past, present and future.
4	Even though I don't always understand, I'm willing to wait on God to act.
5	I am amazed by God's care for me shown by sending Jesus to die for me.
6	I know that there are times God is justified or deserves to be angry
7	I love the fact that Jesus set aside His power to reach out to the hurting.
8	I know that God will do exactly what He says He will do.
9	My lifestyle reflects that I obey God
10	I feel sure of God's love for me, even when I act unloving to others.
11	I have an inner assurance of my relationship with Jesus.
12	Because I have Jesus, I am calmer, even when problems come along.
13	I accept others right where they are.
14	I choose to forgive others because Jesus chose to forgive me.
15	I am immediately sensitive to the conviction of God's Spirit when I sin.
16	When someone approaches me angry, I don't react in anger.
17	People who know me well would say I have a consistent walk with God.
18	I say 'no' to things that will hurt my relationship with God.
19	I am committed to serving others, even if I don't feel like it.
20	Even when things go wrong, I have a deep assurance of God's presence.
21	I am confident that my sins are forgiven.
22	I don't complain about my problems; instead I trust God.
23	I comfort, encourage, and affirm others.
24	I live a lifestyle that pleases God.

25 Even when I feel attacked, I obey God's Word and submit to the Spirit.

26 I follow through with what I say I will do.

27 I am committed to a consistent time alone with God in prayer & study.

28 I am positive and affirm good qualities in others, even when they get on my nerves.

29 I have consistent satisfaction from doing what God wants me to do.

30 I am confident God accepts me because of my relationship with Jesus.

31 I believe that God is developing me into the person he wants me to be.

32 I speak positively to others to build them up.

33 I am truthful, honest and keep the promises I have made.

34 I seek to be humble, get along with others, and teachable all the time.

35 I am responsible.

36 I have asked my friends to help me in areas in which I struggle.

37 I serve others with no expectation of being served in return.

38 I have a deep pleasure because I sense God's presence as I serve.

39 I am not easily stressed out because I know God is in control.

40 I am willing to wait for things that will benefit me physically, spiritually or materially.

41 I listen and try to understand others.

42 I have talked to other Christians in love when they make the wrong choices in the way they live.

43 I am open and receive feedback in areas in which I need improvement.

44 I use the abilities God has given me for His glory.

45 When I recognize a bad behaviour in my life, I immediately change it.

46 When I have been hurt, I am willing to forgive the person who hurt me.

47 I delight in what God is doing in the lives of others.

48 I have a calm assurance even in difficult situations.

49 When I am hurting, I place my hope in God.

50 I am compassionate, caring and respond to the needs of others.

51 I am involved in serving others in order to influence others for Jesus.

52 Regardless of my feelings, I focus on doing what is right.

53 I feel that my time, money and energy are God's to use as He wishes.

54 Distractions do not keep me from my goals.

55 I pray for my enemies and those who are hard to love.

56 No matter what I am doing, I know God is with me and using me to serve others.

57 I experience the Holy Spirit's comfort in the midst of the world's chaos.

58 I accept others who are different from me.

59 I treat others with kindness and gentleness even if they are different than me or rejected by others.

60 I take a stand for truth and against injustice.

61 I don't seek revenge when others hurt me.

62 My friends know they can count on me.

63 I stay away from things in which I am easily tempted.

Fruit of the Spirit: Responses Self-Scoring

Now that you have completed the inventory, transfer the answers to the corresponding numbers on this response sheet. Be sure to follow the numbers correctly, noting that they go in columns vertically.

- For example, for line A (Love), you will add up the responses to the statements 1, 10, 19, 28, 37, 46 and 55.
- Place your totals in the column marked 'Total".
- There is a possible score of 21 for each aspect of the fruit of the Spirit.
- The higher you score for each quality, the more likely you are to be showing that quality in your life. Circle the top two fruits you scored highest on. Underline your lowest.

						Total	Fruit	
A: 1	10	19	28	37	46	*55*	A	Love
B: 2	11	20	29	38	47	56	B	Joy
C: 3	12	21	30	39	48	*57*	C	Peace
D: 4	13	22	31	40	49	58	D	Patience
E: *5*	14	23	32	41	50	*59*	E	Kindness
F: 6	15	24	33	42	51	60	F	Goodness
G: 7	16	*25*	34	43	*52*	61	G	Gentleness
H: 8	17	26	35	44	53	62	H	Faithfulness
I: 9	18	27	36	45	54	63	I	Self-Control

WEEK 5: BEING A TALENTED SERVANT PART

BEING A TALENTED SERVANT PART 1

"For it is just like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted them with his possessions. To one he gave five talents to another two talents, and to another one talent—each according to his own ability. And he went on his journey. The servant who had received the five talents went at once and put them to work and gained five more. Likewise, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the servant who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money. After a long time, the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The servant who had received the five talents came and presented five more. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!' The servant who had received the two talents also came and said, 'Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!' Finally, the servant who had received the one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So, I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what belongs to you.' You wicked, lazy servant!' replied his master. 'You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed. Then you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received it back with interest. Therefore, take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has, will be taken away from him. And throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" **Matt 25: 14-30**

- The great things we long for and search for are found amongst small things we ignore or discard.
- We must not miss this principle of life that Jesus is teaching.
- The transformation & growth that takes place in your life is both a miracle of God and the stewardship of man.
- Learn to partnership with God and be faithful & accountable with the resources He gives you.
- God measures you by your God - given capacity, we are all equal, but not the same.

"In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren't." **Rom 12: 4 - 6 MSG**

- Small things matter with God.

- Talent and gifting is a gift from God, but character is a process.
- Perseverance is a must to reach your potential.
- God sees what we are and what we can become.
- When you are unfaithful and don't produce, God sees it as wickedness.

How do I fulfill my potential?

- God created you unique; you are not to be average. (You must succeed and not FAIL)

  God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us." **Eph 3: 20 (MSG)**

  "…being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." **Philippians 1: 6**

- You were born with potential, but you must become productive.
- Remember to never quit and to keep your life moving forward and growing.
- Choose to be a talented person. (The best you, you can be)

  *"This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, proving yourselves to be My disciples."***John 15: 8**

BEING A TALENTED SERVANT PART 2

"For it is just like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted them with his possessions. To one he gave five talents to another two talents, and to another one talent—each according to his own ability. And he went on his journey The servant who had received the five talents went at once and put them to work and gained five more. Likewise, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the servant who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The servant who had received the five talents came and presented five more. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!' The servant who had received the two talents also came and said, 'Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master!' Finally, the servant who had received the one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So, I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what belongs to you.' 'You wicked, lazy servant!' replied his master. 'You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed. Then you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return, I would have received it back with interest. Therefore, take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him.

And throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" **Matt 25: 14-30**

- Don't allow your talents to take you to a place where your character can't keep you.
- God is a wise investor; He doesn't invest where it will be wasted.
- God is more interested in what you are becoming than where you are going.
- Character is faithfulness in doing the small things.

"But first and most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right--the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also." **Matt 6: 33 AMP**

- If you want to have wisdom in your life you must value and implement what God values.

Prov 3: 6 - 7 l Prov 14: 12 / Ps 37: 23

- Take time to seek God about His will and allow Him to build character.
- You will need faithfulness and endurance.

Hebrews 1O: 36 - 38 / Hebrews 12: 1 / James 1: 2 - 4 (MSG)

Psalm 37: 5-7

- In life, never give up or quit, submit to God and allow Him to work.

Heb 11: 7 / 2 Pet 2: 5 / Gen 6: 22

- It is one thing to know the voice of God and something else to have the courage to obey what He says.

WEEK 6: HOW TO SUCCEED AT BEING YOURSELF

It's tough to enjoy life when you don't like yourself. People who haven't learned to accept and get along with themselves tend to have more difficulty accepting and getting along with others. Yet, the Bible repeatedly tells us to *"love your neighbor as yourself."* **Mark 12:31 NKJV**

The Bible says a good tree will bear good fruit, and a rotten tree will bear rotten fruit. Likewise, the "fruit" of our lives comes from the "root" within us. **Matt 12: 35 NKJV**

Here are a few tips I believe will help you succeed at being yourself.

- Never say or think negative things about yourself, such as, "I never do anything right." "I'll never change." "I'm ugly." "I look terrible." "I'm dumb." "Who could ever love me?" **Matt 12: 37 NKJV / Prov 23: 7 NKJV**

- Speak good things about yourself (as private confessions) in line with what the Word says about you. For example:

  "I am the righteousness of God in Christ."

  "I am made acceptable in the Beloved."

  "God created me and formed me with His own hands, and God doesn't make mistakes."

- Never compare yourself with other people. God must love variety or He wouldn't have created us all differently-even down to our fingerprints. You'll never succeed at being yourself if you're trying to be like someone else. **2 Cor 10:12 NKJV**

- Focus on your potential instead of your limitations. Actress Helen Hayes was told early in her career that if she were four inches taller she'd be the greatest actress of her time. Her coaches tried various methods of stretching her, but nothing increased her height. She refused to concentrate on the supposed limitation of being five feet tall and decided to concentrate on her potential. As a result, she was eventually cast as Mary, Queen of Scotland-one of the tallest queens who ever lived. **Eph 2: 10 NKJV**

- Find something you like to do that you do well and do it over and over. If you spend your time doing things you're not good at, it'll frustrate you and cause you to feel defeated and unsuccessful.

- Have the courage to be different. Be a God-pleaser, not a man-pleaser. If you dare to be different, you'll have to expect some criticism. Going along with the crowd - when you know in your heart God's leading you a different way - is one reason people don't succeed at being themselves. You won't like yourself very much if you go against your own convictions. **Gal 1: 10 NKJV**

- Don't let the way another person treats you determine your worth. **1 Pet 2: 9 NKJV**

- Keep your flaws in perspective. People with a high level of confidence have just as many weaknesses as people without confidence, but they concentrate on their strengths-not their flaws or weaknesses.

In conclusion, it's tough to enjoy life when you don't like yourself. When you learn to succeed at being yourself, you'll be well on your way to enjoying life.

Notes: adapted from a teaching by Joyce Meyer

THE ELEMENTS OF PERSONALITY

- Your personality is innate, built in. You are born with a unique set of personality traits.
- Your personality is your interpretation of life and determines whether you are easily depressed, casual, formal, careful, or carefree; passive or assertive
- Personality is a code of behavior, a core of thoughts and feelings inside of you that tells you how to conduct yourself.

Behaviors are determined by needs and wants. Needs and wants are determined by motives and motives are our innermost reasons, the driving force behind our personalities

THE COLOUR CODE

According to Hartman, there are 4 basic "core" personality colours: Although you will have a "secondary" colour that will influence your personality also.

- Red
- Blue
- White
- Yellow

Life can be puzzling. Why are some people so easy to love, work for, work with, and befriend, while others require constant effort?

What part do you play in making relationships in your life work?

REDS: THE POWER WIELDERS

- Reds are highly committed to causes
- Accomplish whatever life places before them
- Reds are visionaries

Look toward the future and take steps necessary to successfully take them there

- Reds are known as insensitive and selfish

- Reds are proud and known to parade their values and opinions in the faces of all others
- Reds appear strong and certain of themselves

Few people are willing to confront them

- Reds sense what is right
- Leadership positions
- Red are highly critical of other people
- Reds can bury their own personal insecurities
- Reds must be right
- Reds are daring and bold
- Reds are opinionated and stubborn
- Reds are not natural conversationalist

Natural lecturers

- Resourcefulness and self-reliance
- Reds are calculating and manipulative to control lives and produce results

Strengths

- Natural leader
- Operates in a very logical, sensible manner
- Make decisions quickly and easily
- Self-motivated
- Quick with good advice and direction
- Strong sense of independence

Limitations

- Out of touch with own feelings
- Insensitive and tactless
- Blame others for personal misfortunes
- Dislike being told what to do
- Poor listener
- Enters friendship asking, "What's in it for me?"
- Demanding and arrogant

Careers most likely to attract Reds

- Administrator
- Police officer
- Entrepreneur
- Lawyer
- Politician
- Sales

- Marketing

BLUES: THE DO-GOODERS

- Lighted beacon of goodness and truth
- Blues appreciate creativity, committed relationships, and disciplined achievement
- Blues can be logical, they are more likely to respond to on emotional plea
- Life is emotionally a double-edged sword
-

-Positive side:

- Giving and sensitive

Negative side:

- Unforgiving and too sensitive
- Roller coaster of emotions

Allowing their hearts to rule their minds

- Blues are committed and loyal
- Blues are usually perfectionists

Highly critical of themselves and others

- Blues don't delegate well

Stand over others like mother hens

- Blues are self-disciplined and stable
- Blues are self-sacrificing and nurturing

Think of others before themselves

- Blues give more than any personality but forgive the least
- Blues worry about everything
- Blues value manners
- Blues have strong work ethic
- Blues are moody and complex
- Blues are self-righteous and insecure

Strengths

- Sees life as a serious endeavor
- Strong skills in empathizing with others
- Plans well and follows through superbly
- Enjoys detail and schedules
- Self-sacrificing

- Loyal forever
- Values relationships and places high priority on it

Limitations

- Highly emotional
- Tend to lecture and over discuss issues
- Easily frustrated by lack of team cooperation
- Feels inadequate with natural talents and creativity

Lacks ability to relax

Expects friends to maintain strong loyalty

Careers most likely to attract blues

- Teacher
- Musician
- Architect
- Nurse
- Banker

WHITES: THE PEACEKEEPERS

- Model of gentle human dignity
- Quietly move through life with easy, unruffled style
- Whites are usually difficult to know
- Whites are often lost, inviting others to rescue and protect them in life
- Whites can be timid and shy
- Whites can be difficult to read
- Whites can be very passive
- Whites doubt themselves
- Whites are tolerant of disagreeable behavior regardless of personal discomfort
- Whites are quite impressionable
- Hold their true feelings very close to the heart, safely tucked away from others
- Whites are capable of blending in
- Whites often remain unproductive dreamers
- Highly unmotivated

Until goals and commitment is established

- Capable of being the best friend to all personalities
- Look to others rather than to themselves for excitement

Boring and lazy

- Timid and emotionally unsure
- Gentle and even-tempered

- Whites rarely seek leadership positions
- Whites can be very strong and stubborn

Give the silent treatment because they are uncomfortable with confrontation

Strengths

- Blends into all situations
- Strong empathy skills
- Receptive to suggestions
- Slow to react to anger
- Non-demanding
- Enjoys observing others
- Loyal and committed to relationship

Limitations

- Takes passive approach to life
- Dishonest with feelings
- Often agrees only to please others
- Sees goals as demanding and therefore restrictive
- Fears change and risk taking
- Lacks creativity to make suggestions
- Too accommodating

Careers most likely to attract whites

- Dentist
- Computer programmer
- Veterinarian
- FBI agent
- Military service

YELLOWS: THE FUN LOVERS

- Yellows love life
- Appreciate what they have rather being miserable
- Yellows bound through life well focused on themselves
- Start more projects than finish
- Yellows have a most difficult time accepting responsibility for themselves
- Yellows take the easy path
- Yellows seek enchanting opportunities and find life laced with silver linings
- Yellows enjoy life regardless of what they are doing
- Yellows enjoy the company of others
- Yellows would like to change not themselves but the world around them
- Yellows learn early in life to cut corners
- Yellows are impulsive and restless
- Yellows find it easy to relate to people of all ages

- Yellows love to entertain and be entertained
- Yellows are naive and trusting
- Yellows are often nicknamed "chatterbox"

Strengths

- Loves to volunteer for opportunities
- Comfortable with people
- Gives priority to playtime
- High energy
- Turns crisis into comedy
- Strong visual learner
- Forgiving of self and others
- Not burdened with emotional baggage

Limitations

- Needs to look good socially
- Often speaks before thinking m
- Feels no need to prepare for the future
- Sloppy and unpredictable
- Forgetful
- Undependable in a crisis
- Prefers to enter a relationship knowing there is an escape

Careers most likely to attract yellows

- Firefighter
- Travel agent
- Tour guide
- Retail
- Entertainer
- Receptionist

THE HARTMAN PERSONALITY PROFILE

Directions: Mark an "X" by the one word or phrase that best describes what you are like most of the time. Choose only one response from each group. After you've finished question 30, total your scores for each letter.

PERSONALITY STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS

1 a)_ opinionated
b)_ nurturing
c)_ inventive
d)_ outgoing

2 a)_ power-oriented
b)_ perfectionist
c)_ indecisive
d)_ self-centered

3
a)_ dominant
b)_ sympathetic
c)_ tolerant
d)_ enthusiastic

4
a)_ self-serving
b)_ suspicious
c)_ unsure
d)_ naive

5
a)_ decisive
b)_ loyal
c)_ contented
d)_ playful

6
a)_ arrogant
b)_ worry prone
c)_ silently stubborn
d)_ flighty

7
a)_ assertiv
b) _ reliable
c)_ kind
d)_ sociable

8
a) _ bossy
b)_ self-critical
c)_ reluctant
d)_ a teaser

9
a)_ action-oriented
b)_ analytical
c)_ easygoing
d) _ carefree

10
a)_ critical of others
b)_ overly sensitive
c)_ shy
d)_ obnoxious

11
a)_ determined
b)_ detail conscious
c)_ a good listener
d)_ a party person

12
a)_ demanding
b)_ unforgiving
c)_ unmotivated
d)_ vain

13
a)_ responsible
b)_ idealistic
c)_ considerate
d) happy

14
a)_ impatient
b) moody
c) passive
d)_ impulsive

15
a)_ strong-willed
b) _ respectful
c) patient
d)_ fun-loving

16
a)_ argumentativ
b) _ e unrealistic
c)_ directionless
d)_ an interrupter

17 a)_ independent
b) _ dependable
c)_ even-tempered
d)_ trusting

18 a)_ aggressive
b) _ frequently depressed
c)_ ambivalent
d)_ forgetful

19 a)_ powerful
b)_ deliberate
c) _ gentle
d) _ optimistic

20 a)_ insensitive
b)_ judgmental
c)_ boring
d)_ undisciplined

21	a)_	logical	22	a)_	always right
	b)_	emotional		b)_	guilt prone
	c)_	agreeable		c)_	unenthusiastic
	d) _	popular		d)_	uncommitted
23	a)_	pragmatic	24	a)_	merciless
	b)_	well-behaved		b)_	thoughtful
	c)_	accepting		c)_	uninvolved
	d)_	spontaneous		d)_	a show-off
25	a)_	task-oriented	26	a)_	tactless
	b)_	sincere		b)_	hard to please
	c)_	diplomatic		c)_	lazy
	d) _	lively		d)_	loud
27	a)_	direct	28	a)_	calculating
	b)_	creative		b)_	self-righteous
	c) _	adaptable		c)_	self-depreciating
	d)	a performer		d)_	disorganized

Total a's **Total b's** **Total e's** **Total d's**

Enter your totals in the proper spaces.

Now let's see if you respond the same way to the following situations as you did to groups of descriptive words. Again, pick only one answer, and record your totals for each letter at the end of the section.

SITUATIONS

31. If I applied for a job, a prospective employer would most likely hire me because I am:
    a. Driven, direct, and delegating.
    b. Deliberate, accurate, and reliable.
    c. Patient, adaptable, and tactful.
    d. Fun-loving, spirited, and casual.

32. When involved in an intimate relationship, if I feel threatened by my partner, I:
    a. Fight back with facts and anger.
    b. Cry, feel hurt, and plan revenge.
    c. Become quiet, withdrawn, and often hold anger until I blow up over some minor issue

later.
d. Distance myself and avoid further conflict.

33. For me, life is most meaningful when it:
a. Is task-oriented and productive.
b. Is filled with people and purpose.
c. Is free of pressure and stress.
d. Allows me to be playful, light-hearted, and optimistic.

34. As a child, I was:
a. Stubborn, bright, and/or aggressive.
b. Well-behaved, caring, and/or depressed.
c. Quiet, easy-going, and/or shy.
d. Too talkative, happy, and/or playful.

35. As an adult, I am:
a. Opinionated, determined, and/or bossy.
b. Responsible, honest, and/or unforgiving.
c. Accepting, contented, and/or unmotivated.
d. Charismatic, positive, and/or obnoxious.

36. As a parent, I am:
a. Demanding, quick-tempered, and/or uncompromising.
b. Concerned, sensitive, and/or critical.
c. Permissive, easily persuaded, and/or often overwhelmed.
d. Playful, casual, and/or irresponsible.

37. In an argument with a friend, I am most likely to be:
a. Verbally stubborn about facts.
b. Concerned about others' feelings and principles.
c. Silently stubborn, uncomfortable, and/or confused.
d. Loud, uncomfortable, and/or compromising.

38. If my friend was in trouble, I would be:
a. Protective, resourceful, and recommend solutions.
b. Concerned, empathetic, and loyal-regardless of the problem.
c. Supportive, patient, and a good listener.
d. Nonjudgmental, optimistic, and downplaying the seriousness of the situation.

39. When making decisions, I am:
a. Assertive, articulate, and logical.
b. Deliberate, precise, and cautious.
c. Indecisive, timid, and reluctant.
d. Impulsive, uncommitted, and inconsistent.

40. When I fail, I feel:
a. Silently self-critical, yet verbally stubborn and defensive.
b. Guilty, self-critical, and vulnerable to depression-I dwell on it.

c. Unsettled and fearful, but I keep it to myself.
d. Embarrassed and nervous-seeking to escape the situation.

41. If someone crosses me:
a. I am angered, and cunningly plan ways to get even quickly.
b. I feel deeply hurt and find it almost impossible to forgive completely. Generally, getting even is not enough.
c. I am silently hurt and plan to get even and/or completely avoid the other person.
d. I want to avoid confrontation, consider the situation not important enough to bother with, and/or seek other friends.

42. Work is:
a. A most productive way to spend one's time.
b. A healthy activity, which should be done right if it's to be done at all. Work should be done before one plays.
c. A positive activity as long as it is something I enjoy and don't feel pressured to accomplish.
d. A necessary evil, much less inviting than play.

43. In social situations, I am most often:
a. Feared by others.
b. Admired by others.
c. Protected by others.
d. Envied by others.

44. In a relationship, I am most concerned with being:
a. Approved of and right.
b. Understood, appreciated, and intimate.
c. Respected, tolerant, and peaceful.
d. Praised, having fun, and feeling free.

45. To feel alive and positive, I seek:
a. Adventure, leadership, and lots of action.
b. Security, creativity, and purpose.
c. Acceptance and safety.
d. Excitement, playful productivity, and the company of others.

Situations Totals

Total a's	Total b's	Total e's	Total d's

Now add your totals from numbers 1-30 to those from numbers s 1-45 to get grand totals. At this point, the four personality colour types are assigned to each of the letters: Red for 11a, 11 Blue for 11b, 11 White for 11c, 11 and Yellow for 11d. 11

GRAND TOTALS

Red (a)	Blue (b)	White (c)	Yellow (d)

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

> *"For we are God's [own] handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand) for us [taking paths which He prepared ahead of time], that we should walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live]."* **Eph 2:10 AMP**

The word for God's handiwork in Greek is the word 'poema', from which we get the word poem. You are God's poem. You are a work of art. You are unique. There is nobody like you! You have started the process of unwrapping your gift and things are taking shape, or you know your gift but you decided to get it into shape and sharpen or develop it to the next level. The key is don't waste your shape.

If you want to know God's will for your life, you've got to look at what you're good at. "Why would God give you certain gifts, abilities, and talents and not expect you to use them?" He desires to use your time, treasure and talent to glorify Him, help others and bless your life in the process.

LET'S SUMMARIZE YOUR S.H.A.P.E

God gives you

S=Spiritual gifts H=Heart/Passions A=Abilities P=Personality E=Experiences

(SHAPE) that make you unique, and when you take time to figure out how God has shaped you, it gives you direction for where you should go with your life. Ask yourself, "What am I good at? What do I love to do? What is my passion? What turns me on, and what turns me off? What is it that people affirm in me? How can God use those abilities for his Kingdom?" Most of all make a decision tonight to get started, stay committed and never hold back the things God has placed in you.

There's more to life than being unique. God wants you to be unique and effective. He designed you the way He did so you could do good works. Even before you were born, God pre-designed a role for you in life. He said, "I'm going to make this person and give him certain gifts, abilities, and talents, and I'm going to allow him to go through certain experiences - some good, some painful, and some educational. I'm going to bring all of these things together, because I want something done in the world that will take that kind of person to do it.

One day you'll stand before God and He'll ask, "What did you do with what I gave you?" If you don't use your experiences and your shape for what God intended, you missed the point. We are saved to serve. It's called having a ministry- using your talents and gifts to help other people. Fulfilment means being whom and what God meant for you to be.

> *"As each of you has received a gift (a particular spiritual talent, a gracious divine endowment), employ it for one another as [befits] good trustees of God's many-sided grace [faithful stewards of the extremely diverse powers and gifts granted to Christians by unmerited favour]."*
> **1 Peter 4:10 AMP**

> *"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 NIV**

GUIDELINES FOR PROPHECY - MOTIVATED PEOPLE

1. Be certain to speak the truth in love

It is vitally important that prophecy - motivated people be led by the Holy Spirit when pointing out others' weaknesses. Remember, just as Paul charged Timothy, we, too, are charged to treat others gently and meekly (**2 Timothy 4: 1-2**).

2. Guard against rigidity

Prophecy - motivated people can set such high standards for righteous living that they become legalistic and hinder others' spiritual growth. For example, when a person first becomes born again, some habits from his or her old nature - like smoking - may linger. (Only our spirits are completely renewed at the new birth; our souls are renewed by meditating on and applying God's Word to our lives) a prophecy- motivated person may be inclined to go up to a young Christian and say, 'What's wrong with you? Don't you know that it's a sin to smoke?" Remember, young Christians need time to become mature spiritually. It's important that their spiritual growth is not hindered by a more mature Christian's convictions of righteousness.

GUIDELINES FOR SERVING - MOTIVATED PEOPLE

1. Make certain that God has called you to do the task that you are performing.

In their enthusiasm to serve, some servers can become overly aggressive. Be careful that you are not performing a task that God would like another to do.

2. Do your work as unto the Lord.

Sometimes servers become offended when they aren't complimented and recognized. Remember, although people may not recognize your work, your heavenly Father is always aware of your accomplishments, and He values your willingness to serve Him.

3. Keep your priorities straight.

Sometimes servers become so motivated by the tasks they are to perform that they neglect their personal relationship with God. Our relationship with God must always have first priority in our lives, and, if we neglect Him, we need to reassess our priorities and put them in the proper order.

4. Be careful not to interfere with God's dealings with others.

Sometimes a server will leap in to help someone whom God is trying to teach a lesson.

GUIDELINES FOR TEACHING - MOTIVATED PEOPLE

1. Teachers should be careful to present their material in an interesting fashion.

   Sometimes teachers get so involved in their material that they forget about the people they are teaching. Teachers must always 'tune into' their audience; otherwise, their audience will 'tune them out' and their message - no matter how good it is - will fall on deaf ears.

2. **Teachers should make sure their lessons have practical application**.

   You can tell people all the facts, but if they can't apply them to their everyday lives, your lesson is fruitless. Always remember that people, not facts, ore God's greatest concern.

   We ore precious to Him, and He wonts to meet our doily needs. Teachers should never allow the facts to become more important than the people to whom they ore being presented.

3. **Teach with humility and compassion**.

   Because teachers love to spend time in the Word, they often become very knowledgeable about it. This may lead to a prideful attitude. Sometimes teachers will soy, "I know this and this and this about the Bible." They may know many Biblical facts, but if that knowledge doesn't help somebody, the teacher is just on a head trip. And we need teachers to be on heart trips, not head trips. Because teachers like to study and research the Word, they may become more concerned about the material they study than the people to whom they present it.

   It is important that teachers not only study the Word but retain godly love and compassion toward those for whom it is meant - people.

GUIDELINES FOR EXHORTERS

1. Be sensitive to the Lord's leading.

Sometimes exhorters over-emphasize their action steps more than they depend on the Lord Who gives them the steps. Exhorters must be sensitive to what God wonts to do in a situation. The Holy Spirit will manifest results differently in various people's lives, and we must remember that what works for one person won't necessarily work for another

.

2. Have faith in God.

If the people to whom exhorters may minister do not follow their advice, the exhorters sometimes feel that they have foiled God. But we cannot always walk by what we see.

If you have sown the Word in love and by the power of the Holy Spirit, then you hove to trust in God to bring the results. It is important to be faithful to God. If the people to whom you minister don't openly accept your efforts, then trust God to continue to work in their hearts. Remember, your labour in the Lord is never in vain.

3. Be careful not to take scripture out of context.

Sometimes exhorters wont so badly to prove their points that they twist the scriptures to correspond to the example they ore giving. (2 Peter 1 v20; Revelation 22vl 8,19) Exhorters must be careful not to manipulate scriptures to coincide with their personal examples; rather, their examples should coincide with scripture.

GUIDELINES FOR GIVING - MOTIVATED PEOPLE

1. Remember that God is your source.

   Sometimes people use giving as a means of manipulation - they put strings on their giving to receive something in return. Givers must watch their attitudes and motivations.

2. **Remember that others may need encouragement to give.**

   Givers may become offended when ministers appeal to their congregations for money. You must keep in mind that some people must be taught to give. It is just as scriptural to teach others to give as it is to teach them to pray or to read the Bible. All these activities reap tremendous rewords in the believers' lives, and ministers would be remiss in their duties if they did not teach their congregations how to

3. **Maintain balance in your giving.**

   This is an important point because givers must resist the tendency to go to extremes. Some givers become so involved in their giving to the churches that they become too frugal with themselves and their families. We need to be careful not to become so overwhelmed by our giving that we totally neglect ourselves or our loved ones. On the other hand, some givers may have a tendency to become too materialistic. They begin to think about the large homes or extravagant cars they could buy. Solomon is a good example of a godly man who became too materialistic. God had blessed and prospered Solomon, but he became consumed with his wealth and lost the vision that God had given him. It is very important that givers keep a godly perspective and give as the Holy Spirit directs them.

GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZERS

1. **Use your talents**.

   Romans 12: 8 says that he that rules should do so diligently. Diligence comes from the Greek word spoude meaning "hastily or earnestly." People with the foundational gift of organizing will often wait until they are asked to get involved in a project. Organizers should not wait until they are asked to get involved; rather, they should make themselves available to minister to the Body.

2. **Supervise your projects closely.**

   Some organizers have a tendency to over delegate their responsibilities. They are so busy getting everyone involved that they don't oversee the project as closely as necessary, and things may begin to fall apart.

3. **Explain why certain tasks are necessary**.

   Organizers often can see the overall goal and the steps necessary to reach that goal, but they may not realize that everyone else involved in the project may not be as spiritually perceptive. Organizers must be willing to explain details and spend time outlining tasks to workers.

4. **Remember, people are more important than projects**.

   Sometimes organizers become so excited about completing a project that it may seem more important than those whom the project is designed to help. But in order to be worthwhile, projects must meet people's needs. If this isn't accomplished, we have missed our mark.

5. **Remain sensitive to others**.

   Organizers like to complete tasks swiftly and, at times, may appear to be insensitive to others' schedules and priorities. Remember that people have other demands on their time and lives and probably won't be able to devote themselves full-time to your project.

GUIDELINES FOR MERCY-MOTIVATED PEOPLE

1. **Allow God to deal with other' offenses.**

   Romans 12:8 specifically encourages mercy - motivated people to minister cheerfully. Why? Because they feel so deeply for others that they sometimes begin to be offended for them. And it doesn't help others or minister to them in any way when we allow ourselves to pick up their offenses as our own. The Bible says that glory rests upon the righteous **1 Peter 4:14**.

   God's glory may rest upon those who are righteously offended, but it doesn't rest upon those who pick up others' offenses as their own. When you become offended simply because others are offended, you will lose God's glory.

2. **Make decisions based on the Word of God**.

   Mercy - motivated people have a tendency to make decisions based on emotions rather than on the Word. Remember, your emotions are neither reliable nor infallible. To make sound decisions, always make certain that they are in agreement with God's Word.

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4. **Exercise caution when ministering to members of the opposite sex**.

You may become too seriously involved and cause further injury or problems. Because of their kind hearts and sensitivity, mercy - motivated people are particularly susceptible to becoming more involved in situations than they should be. Remember, God can send labourers who will not further complicate situations for those who are already experiencing pain and anguish.

5. **Make an effort to fellowship with a variety of people**.

Mercy - motivated people are inclined only to fellowship with others who are also mercy - motivated. You may say, "The love of Jesus doesn't flow out of people who aren't compassionate, so I don't want to be around them." But, perhaps, God wants you to minister compassion and mercy to those who seem to be lacking these characteristics. Or, perhaps, God wants them to minister to you in an area where you are lacking. Whatever the case may be, we must always be ready and willing to move as God leads us. Receive all the blessings that God has for them.