

Spiritual Gifts Class

Overview

This is a special class designed to help you discover, refine and clarify possible places that you can put your design to work in the kingdom of God. The hope is that this class will launch you on a personal quest to discover all the ways God wants to use you for his purposes in this world. There is nothing better than to be a tool made for the Masters' hands. The class will span three weeks and be structured more as a workshop than a class. As a workshop the time we spend together will be dependent upon your completion of the assignments.

Session 1

Complete BEFORE class

- Review the scripture passages in the "Finding My Place" brochure
- Complete the online spiritual gifts inventory at <http://www.churchgrowth.org/analysis/index.html> (BRING THE REPORT TO CLASS SESSION #1)
- Spend time in prayer asking God to help you understand his will for your life

Discuss in Class

- The idea of spiritual gifts
- Different characteristics of spiritual Gifts categories
- Begin worksheet #1

Session 2

Complete before class

- Worksheet #1 – including the "Perfect Fit" exercise and the "Outside Opinions" exercise
- Spend time in prayer asking God to help you understand his will for your life

Discuss in Class

- Share worksheet #1 results
- Discuss worksheet #2 – including the "Where is my Heart" and "How I am Most Effective" exercises.

Session 3

Complete before class

- Worksheet #2 – including the "Where is my heart" and "How I am most effective" exercises.
- Spend time in prayer asking God to help you understand his will for your life

Discuss in Class

- Share results from worksheet #2
- Explore ideas from worksheet #2 and possible ministry partnerships
- Make a plan to follow up on getting started

Worksheet #1 – Spiritual Gifts

There are several different dimensions to the topic of a spiritual gift and finding a ministry to serve through.

A. Spiritual Gift Inventory Summary

Based on your spiritual gift assessment write down the key attributes / characteristics and activities that stood out to you from your dominant gifts. Which ones do you most resonate with?

B. Perfect Fit

In a book called “What Color is Your Parachute” Nelson Boles used an interesting process for identifying places of special competence in your life. Make a list of the events, projects, roles, or situations where you were proud of the effort, felt competent and energized in the process, and the results were meaningful to you. After you identify five of these, write a brief paragraph summarizing the situation, your efforts related to the situation, the outcome, and what in particular made it significant to you.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

C. Get the Opinion of Others

A good way to gather information is to ask some trusted friends. After you have identified several aspects related to your unique design, plan to meet with a couple of trusted friends and ask them to help you identify what you are naturally good at. If you want you can also get them to look at your summary list you made in part A above and get their reactions to it. Summarize their comments here.

Worksheet #2 – Who & How

A. Key Design Characteristics

After completing the Spiritual Gifts inventory, the Perfect Fit exercise and talking with some friends make a list of the key aspects of YOU that you feel are key aspects of your God given design.

B. Where my Heart Is

Beyond our abilities we each carry a burden on our heart for different people, causes and situations in our world. Where would you most love to invest your ministry time and effort? What are the needs do you see in the world? In Church? What needs does your heart keep coming back to?

C. How I am most effective

Assume that you are using your unique design and gifts to make a difference in the people / causes / situations you identified. What **role** or **contribution** to that effort do you feel you would be most effective at?

D. Ideas I've thought of

Taking what you have learned so far into consideration make a list of the specific ministry efforts / activities / dreams that you would love to be a part of. These can be existing efforts or completely new efforts. This is the place to dream a little!