Discovering our gifts together

A one-session guide for small groups, Bible studies and ministry teams. It takes 60 minutes and needs nothing but this kit, a Bible and the free Spiritual Gifts Test.

> *“As each has received a gift, employ it in serving one another, as good managers of the grace of God in its various forms.”*
>
> 1 Peter 4:10 (WEB)

Before the session

Ask everyone to take the free test (about 10 minutes, no sign-up) and bring their top three gifts, their gift blend and one “Because you said” statement. Nobody’s answers are sent anywhere; each person keeps their own result.

stillingwaves.com/spiritual-gifts-test

Scan with a phone camera, or type the address.

What is in this kit

1. How to run one 60-minute session
2. The 14 gifts in the test, one line each
3. Eight discussion questions
4. Exercise: notice gifts in each other
5. A prayer to close
6. Journals for your group

The test is a starting point for reflection, not a verdict. Gifts are confirmed as people serve and as others see God working through them.

THE SESSION

How to run one 60-minute session

0–5 min **Welcome and pray.** Thank God for each person by name.

5–15 min **Read together:** 1 Corinthians 12:4–7 and 12:12–27. Ask: what does this say about why gifts are given?

15–30 min **Go round the group.** Each person shares their top three gifts and one “Because you said” statement. Listen; don’t correct or compare.

30–45 min **Notice gifts in each other** (the exercise on page 4).

45–55 min **Discuss** two or three of the questions on page 4.

55–60 min **One step and pray.** Each person names one way to use a gift this month. Close with the prayer on page 5, or your own.

Gentle guardrails for leaders

- No gift makes anyone more important than anyone else (1 Corinthians 12:21–22).
- Every Christian is called to love, serve, give, welcome and speak of Jesus; a gift is a particular joy and strength in one of them.
- Some gifts, such as shepherding, teaching and leadership, are linked in many churches to recognized roles. Let your church guide how they are used.
- Six gifts Paul names, such as prophecy and tongues, are not scored by the test. Churches understand them in different ways; if your group asks, read 1 Corinthians 12–14 together and talk with your pastor.

The 14 gifts in the test

One line each, in the test's own words, with the verse each gift card quotes.

Administration	Turning good plans into clear, workable steps.	1 Corinthians 12:28
Encouragement	Helping people take the next faithful step.	Romans 12:8
Evangelism	Noticing openings to talk about Jesus.	Ephesians 4:11
Faith	Trusting God for others when it looks impossible.	1 Corinthians 12:9
Giving	Meeting needs gladly, and without fuss.	Romans 12:8
Hospitality	Making people feel welcome and at home.	1 Peter 4:9
Serving	Meeting practical needs, often behind the scenes.	1 Peter 4:11
Leadership	Helping a group see where to go, together.	Romans 12:8
Mercy	Staying close to people who are hurting.	Romans 12:8
Shepherding	Caring how people grow, and seeking those who drift.	Ephesians 4:11
Teaching	Explaining the Bible so others can grow.	Romans 12:7
Wisdom	Seeing how God's truth fits real life.	1 Corinthians 12:8
Knowledge	Digging deep to see how Scripture fits together.	1 Corinthians 12:8
Discernment	Helping others weigh what they hear against Scripture.	1 Corinthians 12:10

TALK AND NOTICE

Eight discussion questions

1. Which of your top gifts surprised you, and which felt familiar?
2. Read one of your “Because you said” statements aloud. Where have you seen that in the last year?
3. Where has someone else’s gift helped you recently?
4. Paul says the body needs every part (1 Corinthians 12:21–22). Which gifts in our group are different from yours, and how do they help us?
5. Welcoming, giving and speaking about Jesus are asked of every Christian. How do we tell a particular gift from an everyday calling?
6. Which gift do you find hardest to receive from others, and why?
7. Where could you try using one of your gifts this month, inside or outside church?
8. How can we help each other grow and serve, without comparing gifts?

Exercise: notice gifts in each other (15 minutes)

Give everyone a card for each other person in the group. On each card, write one gift you have seen in that person and one sentence about when you saw it (“When my mum was in hospital, you brought supper twice”). Hand the cards to their owners and let each person read theirs quietly. No scores and no ranking: only what you have seen, with thanks. Then let anyone who wishes share one card that surprised them.

CLOSE

A prayer to close

Our own words, not Scripture. Use it, change it, or pray your own.

> Father, thank you for every person here and for the gifts your Spirit has given each of us. Help us to use them in love, to build one another up, and to serve the people you put in our way this week. Keep us from comparing or boasting, and make us glad for the gifts of others. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

For next time

Ask each person to try one small way of using a gift before you meet again, and to bring one sentence about how it went.



Take the free test
stillingwaves.com/spiritual-gifts-test
56 statements · about 10 minutes · no sign-up

JOURNALS

Journals for your group

From Stilling Waves Press, who made this free test. Each journal gives you a verse, a few honest lines and space to write, about five minutes a day.

BIBLE STUDY JOURNAL FOR SMALL-GROUP LEADERS

For the Truth You Teach That Is Still Forming in You

https://stillingwaves.com/books/devotional-for-bible-study-leaders-when-twenty-people-look-to-you-for/

DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL FOR CHURCH LEADERS

When You Feed the Body and Your Own Soul Eats the Leftovers

https://stillingwaves.com/books/daily-devotional-for-church-leaders-when-feeding-others-while-your-own/

DEVOTIONAL JOURNAL FOR NEW BELIEVERS

When Sunday-School Faith Has to Hold Up on a Monday

https://stillingwaves.com/books/new-christian-devotional-when-sunday-school-faith-has-to-hold-on-a-monday/

All 70 journals: stillingwaves.com/books