

SESSION 7: ALIGN FUTURE DECISION MAKING AROUND GOD & VALUES

Welcome, Review Study/LIFE Starter Journaling: 20 minutes

Discuss how your **RADICAL CHANGES** with your group.

Session #7 Teaching: Activating God's Purpose: 10 minutes

Well, it's time to ACTIVATE YOUR PURPOSE. God has given each believer a spiritual gift that He wants us to use for His glory, but often we DON'T USE IT! In this session, we'll discuss your spiritual gifts and where you could you be serving to ACTIVATE YOUR GIFT. This will be another working session as we discover how you may exercise your God-given spiritual gifts allowing you to experience maximum fulfillment with minimum frustration in your Christian life and ministry.

Every Christian has a dominant spiritual gift and many possess more than one. Through this analysis, you will discover your dominant spiritual gifts. You can then begin to concentrate on further developing your spiritual gifts as you exercise them in daily life and in one or more of the many PBC ministries.

"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

2 Timothy 1:6-7

Fan your gift into flame. This is what Paul told his young protégé Timothy. And I say it to you. Let's discover the spark and then fan it into flame in your life.

We're going to take a spiritual gifts test.

Don't analyze each question, just answer with the first answer that comes to mind. The 108 questions deal with your feelings and desires, so be sure to let your responses reflect your own opinions of yourself. As you read each statement click the button with the most accurate answer.

Remember, this is a self-evaluation; there are no "**right**" or "**wrong**" answers. When you have completed the questionnaire you will be able to view a bar graph of your scores for each gift, a description of your dominant gifts, and several pages of personal analysis. When you get a chance, print out the results and read them over and over and pray over them as well.

Then discuss with your group your dominant Spiritual Gift and where can you apply this gift at PBC or in ministry. What next steps are you willing to commit to in order to activate your gift at a higher level? Pray for each other to be willing to take the next steps to activate your gift.

For homework this week, I would like you to spend 20 minutes each day this week in "**Listening Prayer**," praying for God to show you HOW to activate your gift and to give you the courage and discipline to move in His direction with that gift.

How and where will YOU use EVERYTHING you've learned to serve God? Remember to continue to focus on the **FIRE Journaling Method** and it will give you more insight to your passions!

Spiritual Gifts Assessment: 30 minutes

Things to keep in mind as you take this test:

- **Pick a context**
- **Go with your gut**
- **Don't be afraid of extremes (1 or 5)**
- **Answer as you are, not as you wish you were**

- _____1. God gives me specific words of encouragement to give others.
- _____2. I am comfortable taking the lead.
- _____3. I like to be a host or hostess.
- _____4. I look for ways to help people.
- _____5. God has led me to lay hands on sick people and pray for healing.
- _____6. I speak in tongues.
- _____7. I believe that God will do extraordinary things through me.
- _____8. God gives me glimpses of the future that come true.
- _____9. I am good at delegating responsibilities.
- _____10. I am good at making strangers feel welcome.
- _____11. I find joy in working behind the scenes.
- _____12. When I pray over sick or hurt people they become well.
- _____13. I have been able to understand when someone has spoken in tongues.
- _____14. When I pray God moves mountains.
- _____15. God leads me to confront people about their sin.
- _____16. I can guide a group of people into achieving a goal.
- _____17. I consider my home a place of ministry and outreach.
- _____18. I can't say no when someone needs help, big or small.
- _____19. God has worked miraculous healing through me in others.
- _____20. God has used my ability to speak or interpret tongues to help or encourage others.
- _____21. I find it easy to trust in God's faithful goodness, even when everything looks awful.

Answer Scale

1 - Never 2 - Rarely 3 - Sometimes 4 - Often 5 - Always

ADD THEM UP

•	1. _____	+	8. _____	+	15. _____	=	_____	A
•	2. _____	+	9. _____	+	16. _____	=	_____	B
•	3. _____	+	10. _____	+	17. _____	=	_____	C
•	4. _____	+	11. _____	+	18. _____	=	_____	D
•	5. _____	+	12. _____	+	19. _____	=	_____	E
•	6. _____	+	13. _____	+	20. _____	=	_____	F
•	7. _____	+	14. _____	+	21. _____	=	_____	G

- _____ 22. I feel the joy of the Lord in skillfully making music.
- _____ 23. I find fulfillment when I work with my hands.
- _____ 24. I find ways to give money to the kingdom above and beyond my tithe.
- _____ 25. I minister to people in hospitals, prisons, and/or rest homes.
- _____ 26. People seek out my advice on a wide variety of topics.
- _____ 27. I find myself praying for God's supernatural intervention.
- _____ 28. I am good at lifting people's spirits.
- _____ 29. I feel called to minister to others through music.
- _____ 30. I have exceptional skill in building and/or creating and crafting.
- _____ 31. I am moved to bless people financially when I see they are in need.
- _____ 32. I reach out to those who are hurting or lonely.
- _____ 33. I am good at problem-solving.
- _____ 34. God has worked miracles through me.
- _____ 35. People easily open up to me.
- _____ 36. I have the ability to lead others into worship through music.
- _____ 37. God has used the work of my hands to bless others.
- _____ 38. My initial response to getting money is to find a way to give.
- _____ 39. When other people are hurting, I naturally hurt with them.
- _____ 40. I am good at applying Biblical concepts to difficult situations.
- _____ 41. I have seen God working in supernatural ways.
- _____ 42. I am intentional about speaking kind words to people.

Answer Scale

1 - Never 2 - Rarely 3 - Sometimes 4 - Often 5 - Always

ADD THEM UP

•	22. _____	+	29. _____	+	36. _____	=	_____	H
•	23. _____	+	30. _____	+	37. _____	=	_____	I
•	24. _____	+	31. _____	+	38. _____	=	_____	J
•	25. _____	+	32. _____	+	39. _____	=	_____	K
•	26. _____	+	33. _____	+	40. _____	=	_____	L
•	27. _____	+	34. _____	+	41. _____	=	_____	M

- _____ 43. I find joy in passing my knowledge along to others.
- _____ 44. I have helped people return to their faith.
- _____ 45. I am respected as an authority on spiritual matters.
- _____ 46. I feel a sense of urgency to share the gospel with unbelievers.
- _____ 47. I bring many prayers before the Lord daily.
- _____ 48. When I explain a difficult concept, people find it easy to understand.
- _____ 49. I am good at shepherding and ministering to people.
- _____ 50. I would be willing and excited to be on a church plant team.
- _____ 51. I tell strangers about Jesus.
- _____ 52. I see God actively answering my prayers.
- _____ 53. I am passionate about helping people grow in knowledge and understanding.
- _____ 54. I take responsibility for the discipleship of specific fellow believers in my life.
- _____ 55. I am excited by the formation of new churches and want to help.
- _____ 56. People who might never go to church allow me to share my faith with them.
- _____ 57. Whenever I hear about a needy, angering, or sad situations, my first response is prayer.

Answer Scale

1 - Never 2 - Rarely 3 - Sometimes 4 - Often 5 - Always

ADD THEM UP

•	43.	_____	+	48.	_____	+	53.	_____	=	_____	O
•	44.	_____	+	49.	_____	+	54.	_____	=	_____	P
•	45.	_____	+	50.	_____	+	55.	_____	=	_____	Q
•	46.	_____	+	51.	_____	+	56.	_____	=	_____	R
•	47.	_____	+	52.	_____	+	57.	_____	=	_____	S

SPIRITUAL GIFTS TEST ANSWER SHEET

Transfer the results from the previous 3 pages to the correlating letters on this page.

A high score on this line indicates the following gifts:

- _____ A. Prophecy
- _____ B. Leadership
- _____ C. Hospitality
- _____ D. Service
- _____ E. Healing
- _____ F. Tongues
- _____ G. Faith
- _____ H. Music
- _____ I. Craftsmanship
- _____ J. Giving
- _____ K. Mercy
- _____ L. Wisdom
- _____ M. Miracles
- _____ N. Encouragement
- _____ O. Teaching
- _____ P. Pastoring
- _____ Q. Apostleship
- _____ R. Evangelism
- _____ S. Intercession

Your top 4 gifts:

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

SPIRITUAL GIFTS EXPLAINED

•A. Prophecy | 1 Corinthians 14:1-5; Acts 2:17

The ability to receive spontaneous, personal revelations from the Holy Spirit and Scripture for the purpose of edification, encouragement, consolation, conviction or guidance of fellow believers. Prophecy must be used in love; otherwise it is worthless (1 Cor. 13:8-12).

Opportunities: Prayer Team, Music Ministry, Outreach, Small Group Leadership.

•B. Leadership | Romans 12:6-8

The ability to receive vision from God and lead others to fulfill that vision. This gift is used to raise up people to their full potential, using their spiritual gifts, and to mobilize groups of people to accomplish ministry.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Greeters, Guest Reception, Parking, Ushers, Security, Growth Track Team, Music Ministry, Outreach, Small Group Leadership, Woven.

•C. Hospitality | 1 Peter 4:9-10

The ability to reach out to others, especially newcomers, to make them feel warmly welcomed, comfortable and accepted. This gift is used to help strangers connect with the larger fellowship of the church. It may also include opening of the home to provide meals and lodging.

Opportunities: Sheep, Children's Ministry, Greeters, Guest Reception, Parking, Ushers, Hospitality Team, Growth Track Team, Baptism Team, Events Team, Small Group Leadership, Information Center, Caring Ministries, Woven.

•D. Service | Romans 12:7

The ability to serve the needs of people in the Body of Christ quickly, cheerfully, and without needing recognition. This gift is used to come alongside other people who are using their gifts, and provide the practical support they need to accomplish ministry. It is a people-oriented gift.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Sheep, Dwell, Greeters, Communion Team, Guest Reception, Parking, Ushers, Hospitality Team, First Responders, Security, Growth Track Team, Outreach, Information Center, Caring Ministries, Woven.

•E. Healing | 1 Corinthians 12:9; Acts 3:1-10

The ability to pray and see God bring physical, spiritual, or emotional healing in the name of Jesus Christ. This gift is used for the special purposes of God. It differs from the prayer of faith that all believers are called to participate in (James 5:13-16) by the unique ability to sense when God is prompting the gifted person to pray and believe for a specific healing.

Opportunities: Prayer Team, Outreach, Small Group Leadership.

•F. Tongues | 1 Corinthians 12:10; Acts 2:1-4

The ability to speak in a language other than what the gifted person has learned. This gift is used to proclaim the Truth of God to people who speak a different language, (Acts 2:5-12) as a sign to unbelievers, or to encourage believers (1 Corinthians 14:2, 14). Tongues can also be in a language only God understands for the purpose of prayer and spiritual warfare. In the context of congregational worship, this gift is to be used in conjunction with the Interpretation of Tongues. Opportunity: Prayer Team.

Interpretation of Tongues 1 Corinthians 12:10; 14:5; 26-28

The ability given by God to interpret what has been spoken in tongues so that those gathered who did not understand will be included in hearing God's message. This gift is used to keep the public gatherings in order, and Paul commands that this gift be at work any time the gift of tongues is used in a worship service setting (1 Corinthians 14:26-28).

Opportunity: Prayer Team

•G. Faith | Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9

The ability to trust God for unique and miraculous circumstances in accordance with His Word. This gift is used to encourage all believers to trust God. The person gifted with faith is often an example to others in trusting God even in the face of daunting obstacles. The gift differs from the faith of all believers in its extreme belief in spite of circumstances, and its emphasis on the miraculous.

Opportunities: Communion Team, Prayer Team, Baptism Team, Outreach

•H. Music | Ephesians 5:18-19

The ability to lead people in worship through music. This gift is used to sense and celebrate God's presence in groups of believers. It involves removing all distraction between God and man, guiding people to encounter God.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Music Ministry, AV/Tech Support.

•I. Craftsmanship | Exodus 31:3

The ability to work with material things and create or construct tools for ministry. This gift is used to build items, furniture or facilities for ministry.

Opportunities: Set-up/Take-down, AV/Tech support, Outreach, Events Team.

•J. Giving | Romans 12:8

The ability and strong desire to give material resources and/or money, beyond a tithe, to the needs of people and ministry. This gift is often used to fund the expansion of God's work beyond levels currently being supported. It is also used to meet the needs of people in crisis situations.

Opportunity: Outreach, Woven.

•K. Mercy | Romans 12:8

The ability to come alongside hurting people with genuine empathy and compassion. This gift is used to provide support to people who are experiencing distress, crisis or pain. It also includes the ability to detect hurt where others might miss the needs that exist.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Sheep, First Responders, Prayer Team, Outreach, Caring Ministries, Woven.

•L. Wisdom | 1 Corinthians 12:8

The ability to understand God's mind and will in specific situations, and to see the best course to take. This gift is used to guide people and ministry to the wisest and most God-honoring outcome in all situations.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership.

•M. Miracles | 1 Corinthians 12:10; Mark 16:17-18

The ability to pray in faith specifically for God's supernatural intervention into an impossible situation and see God answer. This gift is used to confirm the Word of God at special moments that God deems appropriate.

Opportunities: Prayer Team, Outreach, Small Group Leadership

•N. Encouragement | Romans 12:6-8

The ability to motivate and encourage believers who are discouraged or wavering in their faith. This gift is used to bring out the best in others, and challenge them to develop to their full potential in Christ.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Sheep, Greeters, Guest Reception, Growth Track Team, Prayer Team, Music Ministry, Caring Ministries.

•O. Teaching | Ephesians 4:11-14

The ability to study and understand God's Word, and then clearly communicate the Word to groups of people in a way that is relevant, understandable, and life changing. This gift is used to instruct and guide believers and unbelievers into all Truth, transform lives, and equip believers for ministry to others.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Small Group Leadership.

•P. Pastoring | Ephesians 4:11

Shepherding. The ability to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers. This gift is used to nurture a small group in their spiritual growth and equip them to ministry to others.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Baptism Team, Outreach, Small Group Leadership, Caring Ministries.

•Q. Apostleship | Ephesians 4:11

The ability to start new areas of ministry from scratch and oversee their development. This gift is used to ex-pand God's work into areas not currently being accomplished.

Opportunities: Growth Track Team, Outreach, Small Group Leadership.

•R. Evangelism | Ephesians 4:11

The ability to understand and relate to the needs and beliefs of unbelievers and lead them to understand sal-vation in Jesus Christ. This gift is used to guide unbelievers to Truth in a positive and non-threatening manner, and results in faith in Christ as the Holy Spirit enables.

Opportunities: Children's Ministry, Dwell, Music Ministry, Outreach, Events Team, Small Group Leadership.

•S. Intercession | James 5:17-18

The ability to pray for others and circumstances with a special faith that perseveres for long periods of time. This gift is used to pray for God's work in situations where the needs are great and spiritual warfare exists. It is different from the prayers of all saints in its focus on spiritual warfare for extended periods of time.

Opportunities: Communion Team, Set-up/Take-down, Prayer Team, Small Group Leadership, Caring Ministries.

Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes

Print out the results and read them over and over and pray over them as well.

- What is your dominant Spiritual Gift?
- Where can you apply this gift in church or ministry?
- What next steps are you willing to commit to in order to activate your gift at a higher level?
- Pray for each other to be willing to take the next steps to activate your gift!
- How and where will YOU serve?

Spend 20 minutes each day this week in "**Listening Prayer**," praying for God to show you HOW to activate your gift and to give you the courage and discipline to move in His direction with that gift.

Focus on the **LIFE Journaling Method** and it will give you more insight to your spiritual gifts!

SESSION #7

WK. 7 DEVO 1

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Journal about what God says about spiritual gifts.

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

F=Focus: to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

SESSION #7

WK. 7 DEVO 2

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Paul affirms the importance of each gift. Journal about how your gift is being encouraged.

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

F=Focus: to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

SESSION #7

WK. 7 DEVO 3

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

God wants to use YOU. He has chosen you for His purpose to do GREAT things for Him. Journal about that!

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

F=Focus: to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

SESSION #7

WK. 7 DEVO 4

Read 1 Peter 4

Be a good steward of YOUR gifts. God says if you are faithful with a few things, He will make you a steward over MANY things!

L=Listen: in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

F=Focus: to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?
