

TAKING THE INVENTORY

You will notice that 20 gifts have been used in the inventory and may wonder why others are not included. One reason was to keep the inventory shorter with 100 statements, five statements for each gift, rather than 26 gifts requiring 130 statements.

I have dropped both “public tongues” and “interpretation of tongues” in that the two are often found together as charisms. Also, to know if one has the gift of tongues, for instance, does not require a discernment process as true with other charisms.

Some may have the gift of “miracles,” but again, it will be known if miracles are happening. “Celibacy” was one I had hoped to include as more Christians find themselves living the single state, but being dropped, hopefully those who have this grace already know it.

I have also combined the “creative gifts” of craftsmanship, music and writing. A high score in ANY of the five creative-gift statements likely indicates a possible charism, especially if others have confirmed the gift.

In having compared the various statements used by other authors of spiritual gift inventories, while trying not to stray too far from their knowledge and research, I have introduced a wider interpretation of at least two of the gifts: “giving” and “missionary” in particular.

For instance, “missionary” no longer means just going to a foreign land to preach the Gospel or even “feeling at home” in a difficult culture. As Pope John Paul II speaks of the “new missionary spirit,” there is a shift occurring in its meaning. It is even associated with the new spirit one experiences when discovering one’s vocation and the zeal to fulfill that mission.

I have not limited “giving” to only financial generosity as most other inventories do. Great self-giving occurs in many forms, with the poor among us often being the richest self-givers.

The inventory is not a test “to be passed” but a tool to help you identify how God appears to be using you at this time. These could be life (natural) gifts or charisms. The inventory results give you a place to start. Learning what gifts you do not have is as important as identifying those that may be special graces.

If most of your totals are high numbers (five or more 20s, the highest number), you may wish to take the inventory a second time. Although we are usually “multi-gifted,” more fine-tuning is needed if there is not a fairly wide range of numbers in the totals.

It is a lengthy process to discern not only how God has uniquely gifted each one of us but to recognize which are human talents and which may be the special grace of charisms. There is also the discernment process as to how the charisms are woven into the personal vocation and identifying that calling. And if one of the three general states-in-life hasn’t yet been chosen, the inventory results can be helpful in discerning that vocation too.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY FOR CATHOLICS

Read each statement then rate it in terms of how true this is for you. Circle "1" if it is not true, "2" if sometimes true, "3" if often true, and "4" if most always true. Your first response is usually the most accurate.

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| 1. I have a strong desire to "take the lead" when a group or situation is inefficient, disorganized or chaotic. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2. I experience Christ's presence in the poor, discerning authenticity in them and others. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3. I enjoy sharing hope and God's promises when people are in need of comfort or consolation. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 4. I often think of those who do not believe in Jesus and am eager to share the Word of God with its Good News. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. I know God is faithful and I confidently expect God to work in difficult situations. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6. God has given freely to me and I give back freely, often in "hidden" ways. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7. I believe and know from experience that God does miraculous healing in our times. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. I generally work behind the scenes without wanting public recognition for what I do. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 9. Making others "feel at home" and welcomed comes easily to me and I enjoy it. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10. I experience my prayer for others as a gift and ministry that extends beyond the role of all Christians to pray. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 11. I discover new insights and truths from reading and by discussing life experiences with others. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. I find myself wanting to "take charge" when a group is "spinning its wheels" because I can see what needs to be done for better results. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 13. I reach out to the ignored or rejected, or to hurting persons when no one seems to notice and care about them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. I have and enjoy friendships with those from a different culture and ethnic background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 15. I have had the responsibility of nurturing, guiding and affirming a group of Christians for an extended period of time. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 16. I seem to sense or know God's will in particular situations or concerning decisions to be made. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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| 17. I prefer working on task-oriented projects rather than in the person-centered ministries. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 18. I have shared biblical and spiritual truth with others in a way that helps them to grow and develop. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19. I can sum up and resolve problems and affect situations quickly. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. I experience singing, playing a musical instrument, or being part of a musical or drama event as a prayer ministry and praising God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 21. Coordinating a large project or tackling several tasks at the same time comes naturally to me and is something I enjoy. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 22. I recognize the spirit of God at work in situations, activities, people, relationships, and during prayer. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 23. I am moved by difficulties and the pain of others, and find myself encouraging them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 24. I have been instrumental in leading others to belief in Christ and the Word of God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 25. My faith is a great source of comfort and strength, knowing God has the power to do what seems the impossible. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 26. Sharing my resources and using my gifts for good causes to further the Reign of God is a deep joy in my life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 27. I have prayed with, or for, others and healing has occurred at the time or soon after. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 28. I prefer short-term tasks, helping one individual, rather than long-term projects or helping with organizational needs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 29. I am intent on meeting new people and making them feel welcomed. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 30. I give regular periods of time to prayer, knowing prayer is powerful before God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 31. My insights into spiritual truths have helped others draw closer to God or to better understand Scripture and Church teaching. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 32. Because others look to me for leadership, I often take this responsibility in group settings. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 33. The sight of misery moves me deeply as does the plight of the poor, forgotten and destitute. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 34. I have zeal to share the Good News and my faith journey wherever I am, wherever I go. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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| 35. I am attracted to longer-term commitments to groups or communities to assist them in their spiritual growth and goals. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 36. My love for truth moves me to speak out with authority and conviction even when it is difficult. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 37. I delight in being called upon by others to perform special works or to assist with the needs of a group or organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 38. I enjoy developing ways of presenting material so that others can learn and understand easily. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 39. I intuitively know or arrive at conclusions which prove to be right or true. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 40. I find writing, rather than speaking, a more satisfying way to express myself and my faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 41. I have an eye for seeing the big picture and the various tasks that work together to accomplish the goal. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 42. I know when something is not right or of God, picking up contradictions easily. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 43. A counseling ministry would be very suited in my sensitivity to the needs of the confused, troubled and distressed. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 44. When I share the difference that Christ makes in my life, others are moved to deepen their own faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 45. I have seen “mountains moved” by not doubting God’s Word and promises and by placing full trust and faith in God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 46. I have made great sacrifices – financially or personally – for the benefit of God’s people and participation in Christ’s mission in the world. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 47. When I touch and pray for a person’s wholeness, restoration or healing, a warm tingling or flowing energy is experienced in myself or the other person. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 48. Doing routine tasks is enjoyable because I know it makes another’s ministry more effective. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 49. I enjoy providing food and/or lodging especially to people in need. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 50. People come to me with prayer requests which I take very seriously. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 51. I often gain some new insight or perspective about God’s ways which excites me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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| 52. I have succeeded in bringing a group to its goals, turning an idea or vision into reality. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 53. I find myself involved in service or ministries which help the hungry, abandoned, alone or afflicted. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 54. I can and want to live simply, here or abroad, so others might simply live. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 55. My heart is moved to speak up when people are unable to see or experience God at work in their lives and situations. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 56. I find it difficult to be a passive, non-confrontive person when injustice is happening or error is promoted. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 57. Doing a variety of routine tasks behind the scenes is where others will most often find me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 58. Offering a variety of examples and experiences comes easily to me when teaching or making a point. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 59. I believe I have learned to apply spiritual truths in my life more deeply than other people I know. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 60. I find joy in art-related projects (such as creating, drawing, acting or designing beautiful works including color design, photography, graphic arts, hand-made items). | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 61. I enjoy working out the details to organize facts, people or resources which includes keeping an on-going list of things to do. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 62. I realize the presence and manifestation of grace at work in others and myself. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 63. I can empathize with a person in crisis, guiding and offering a positive view of encouragement. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 64. I enjoy sharing my faith with others and it comes naturally to me to do this. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 65. My trust in God, including God's providing our material needs, amazes others. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 66. I believe that all is God's – nothing being mine apart from God, and that I am a good steward. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 67. People who are ill or going through a difficult time often ask me to pray for them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 68. People see me as a "practical-help person" and often come to me for this type of assistance. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 69. My home is a place of ministry and gathering, where others feel comfortable and at home. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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| 70. Praying for others is an essential part of my day and I personally benefit in giving time to it. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 71. I enjoy and give time to discerning, analyzing or organizing principles, information or truths concerning God's Reign, the Scriptures or Church teaching. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 72. People follow my direction, have confidence in my vision, and become motivated to accomplish the goals of the group. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 73. In having gained the trust of the poor and needy, I serve them in practical, helpful ways. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 74. I believe I have a unique mission to fulfill in life and have discerned what it might be. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 75. Others seek my advice, counsel and guidance, and I make myself available to them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 76. Things come to pass several years after I recognized or concluded its need. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 77. I would rather respond to needs instead of delegating tasks for others to do. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 78. When listening to another's teaching (verbal or written), I often think of better ways of presenting the topic and/or expand on the topic. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 79. I sense what needs to be done and have spoken up or directed others to act even though I lack "credentials" in this area. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 80. Manual, maintenance or repair work comes easily to me and I enjoy it. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 81. I have successfully coordinated and completed multiple-task projects or initiated new programs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 82. I am quick to detect false teachings, errors and selfish motives in others by their words or actions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 83. Others have told me that my words have brought them greater faith and peace. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 84. Others have told me that I helped them to discover God's love and presence in their lives. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 85. Others have found greater trust and faith in God by the witness of my own unwavering confidence in God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 86. I have given generously, and at times from my need, knowing that God returns a hundredfold to the cheerful giver. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 87. Others have told me that my prayers for healing have been answered. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

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| 88. Others have told me that my assistance made a difference or empowered them to accomplish something important. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 89. Others have told me that I made them feel comfortable, welcomed and at ease. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 90. Others have told me that my prayer is powerful and had made a difference. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 91. Others have told me that my shared insights helped them to appreciate something better or to look at something in a new way. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 92. When I share my ideas or beliefs about what can be achieved, others' feedback is positive. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 93. Others have told me that I am a very compassionate person and that my caring response made a difference. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 94. Others have told me that I relate well with those of a different race or nationality and seem to feel "at home" with them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 95. Others have told me that I helped their faith "come alive" with greater peace and joy in Christ's love. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 96. Others have told me that my courage inspires them and that they agreed with me when I spoke up. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 97. Others have told me that my willingness to complete practical tasks to meet the group's needs was appreciated. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 98. Others have told me that something I said or wrote made a difference in their life. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 99. Others affirm the depth of my understanding and insights especially regarding complex issues. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 100. Others have told me that they were blessed or deeply affected by my creative or artistic ability (music, writing, craftsmanship or other artistic creations). | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

TOTALS FROM SPIRITUAL GIFTS/CHARISMS INVENTORY

								TOTAL				GRAND TOTAL
1		21		41		61			Administrative	81		
2		22		42		62			Discernment	82		
3		23		43		63			Encouragement	83		
4		24		44		64			Evangelism	84		
5		25		45		65			Faith	85		
6		26		46		66			Giving	86		
7		27		47		67			Healing	87		
8		28		48		68			Helps	88		
9		29		49		69			Hospitality	89		
10		30		50		70			Intercession	90		
11		31		51		71			Knowledge	91		
12		32		52		72			Leadership	92		
13		33		53		73			Mercy	93		
14		34		54		74			Missionary	94		
15		35		55		75			Pastor/Shepherd	95		
16		36		56		76			Prophecy	96		
17		37		57		77			Service	97		
18		38		58		78			Teaching	98		
19		39		59		79			Wisdom	99		
20		40		60		80			Creative Ability	100		
								Waiting Gifts				Working Gifts

INSTRUCTIONS:

In the space next to each statement number (1-100), write the number rating (1-4) you gave to each statement. (Note that after four columns of ratings, you skip over to the column to the right of the gift words.)

Add the ratings of the first four columns across and put the total in column to the left of gift words. Then add that total with the rating to right of gift word and put that grand total in its marked place.

In the grand total column, circle the three highest numbers, and up to five numbers IF all of the next highest numbers (ties) can be included. Otherwise stay with just the three or four highest numbers.

Then go to the first total column and circle the three to five highest numbers which were NOT CIRCLED in the grand total column. (Do the same regarding any tie numbers, staying with a maximum of five circled ratings.)

Presenter will explain the difference between working and waiting gifts. The working gifts are those circled in the grand total column. The waiting gifts are those circled in the first total column.

Presenter will also explain "Creative Ability" ratings and their interpretation. Because three creative gifts were combined in the inventory, it makes each of the individual ratings more important.