Praying Through the Gifts at Your Church A Spiritual Gifts Prayer Guide

How to use this prayer guide:

- Assemble a team who will faithfully pray for these equipping values.
- Email one paragraph to that team each week.
- By the end of 20 weeks, your team will have prayed through all 23 spiritual gifts and for everyone at your church.
- 1. Those with gifts of Administration bring efficiency and order to organizations. These are usually the planners, goal-setters, or managers. They look for ways to help groups of people and necessary tasks run more effectively. Examples include the apostles appointing deacons to help in the distribution of food; Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, instructing Moses in better organization and delegation; Daniel and his friends becoming administrators over Babylon. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 2. Those with gifts of Apostleship introduce new ministries to the church. They are people who blaze new trails, pioneer new endeavors, and step out into uncharted territory. They may have a great desire to reach out to unreached peoples, to establish a new ministry, and to spread the vision of the mission of the church. Examples include: Peter and Paul. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 3. People with the spiritual gift of Craftsmanship are uniquely skilled at working with raw materials (wood, cloth, paints, glass, etc.), helping to create things that are used for ministry or that help meet tangible needs. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 4. The spiritual gift of Artistic Expression could also be called the gift of praise and worship. Those who have this gift have a special ability to communicate God's message through the fine arts, including drama, writing, music, and drawing. Through their wonderful, Godgiven creativity, these people in our midst use their gifts to draw us in so that we might focus on God and His Word. Examples include King David and Miriam. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 5. Pray for our entire congregation that all would discover their God-given spiritual gifts, find ways to use them in ministry—following God's leading. Pray that each person would see that this is a way to live that makes a greater impact than simply using their talents and abilities in their own human strength. May each person know and sense their great value as an essential and necessary part of the Body of Christ.
- 6. The Spiritual Gift of Discernment is the God-given ability, through His Holy Spirit, to distinguish between good and evil, truth and error, right and wrong, in a way that is helpful

to the Body of Christ. People with the gift of discernment, as with the other gifts, are essential to the church's life and ministry. These people provide much-needed insight, point out inconsistencies in teaching God's Word, challenge deceitfulness in others, and help sort out impure motives from pure ones. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.

- 7. Exhortation involves offering a word of comfort, hope, or a gentle push to action those who are discouraged. Encouragers come alongside to offer reassurance and affirmation, and, when needed, to challenge or confront, all with the goal of seeing others grow to greater maturity in their faith. Examples we see in Scripture: John the Baptist and Barnabas. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 8. People with the gift of Evangelism are those who seem to be always seeking to build meaningful relationships with non-believers and are often able to steer their conversations with these "neighbors" to spiritual topics. They are enabled, in the power of the Holy Spirit, to communicate the Gospel in such a way that they see people believe and commit to following Christ. People with this gift seem to always be thinking of relationships in terms of opportunities to help people know Jesus. They just cannot not share their faith. Examples: Paul and Philip. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 9. Those in the church with the gift of faith live constantly in the knowledge that God works all things for their good and the good of others who are called according to His purposes (Romans 8:28). When others begin to doubt or flounder, these are the people who believe God is good, God is love, and God is fair, just, and merciful all the time. They rest in God's love and peace instead of a place of worry and anxiety—all based on their complete faith in God, His promises, and His character. People with this gift obey God, take risks, and make sacrifices because they trust God completely. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 10. The spiritual gift of Helps is the divine enablement to accomplish practical and necessary tasks which free-up, support, and meet the needs of others. One attribute of this particular gift is that many of our "helps" servants do it as such a natural extension of who they are, often having a hard time acknowledging that it is an essential part of the Body of Christ. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 11. In the power of the Holy Spirit, people with the gift of Giving view their resources differently—along the lines of "how much can I give away" and "how little can I live on to free up more resources for the kingdom of God"? They live as if everything they have belongs to God, knowing that God will provide for their needs. Giving may involve money as well as other resources like housing, food, clothing, etc. Examples in Scripture: The Good Samaritan, Zaccheus, and Phoebe. Praise God for those at our church who have

- this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 12. Hospitality is not simply cooking for others. It is the divine ability to make people feel welcome and accepted. That can happen anywhere at any time. We know we are to be hospitable, to "entertain strangers," to welcome others in Jesus' name. But, there are those in our midst who have an extra-special ability to do that in the form of the gift of hospitality. They enjoy connecting people with each other. Their graciousness and warmth make others feel cared for. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 13. Intercession—interceding, pleading, approaching God on someone else's behalf—is something we are all to do. Paul says to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17). Jesus encourages us "to pray always and not to lose heart" (Luke 18:1). However, there are those among us who feel compelled by God to pray on a daily basis for others. They are completely convinced of the awesome power and necessity of prayer. These are the folks you call first about a concern you have, because you know they will pray. They have an extra measure of God's grace in the form of the spiritual gift of intercession. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 14. According to the Apostle Paul, Knowledge and Wisdom are not synonymous. In fact, in the Body of Christ, the church, they are separate and distinct gifts: "There are different kinds of gifts...Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit..." (and he goes on to list other gifts of faith, healing, miracles, discernment, tongues, and interpretation of tongues—1 Corinthians 12). One way to contrast these two gifts is to say that those with the gift of knowledge bring Biblical truth and God-given insight to the church, while those with the gift of wisdom use that information by applying it to specific situations, providing guidance in the church. Both are necessary. Each needs the other to provide a complete picture of God's direction for His people. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 15. Those with the spiritual gift of Leadership can be described as visionary, good motivators, and effective directors—helping lead and inspire others to achieve God's purposes. They not only have it as a Spirit-empowered ability, but they also seek God's guidance and His will in their leadership and decision-making. Leadership involves not only having a vision of the preferred future for the church or an organization, but also having clarity on goals or next steps to achieve that vision, the ability to communicate the vision in a way that inspires others, and the ability to equip the rest of the team to pursue the same direction together. Examples include Moses, Joshua, Samuel, Deborah, James. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 16. Compassion...concern...care...kindness. When you see these words, do certain people come to mind? Those are likely persons with the God-given gift of Mercy. People with

this gift come alongside others who are in pain, in need, or are lonely. God's grace and love is shown in practical ways through this gift. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.

- 17. The gift of Prophecy is a spiritual gift that God uses to convict His people of sin and their need for repentance. This gift brings warning, challenge, correction, and confrontation without compromise. For those who have this gift, it's often not an easy mantle to wear. Examples: Samuel, Nathan, Huldah, Isaiah, Jeremiah. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 18. Two of the leadership gifts given to the church are those of Shepherding (Pastoring) and Teaching. Shepherding involves nurture and guidance of others so that they grow in spiritual maturity and Christ-like character. Some pastors have the spiritual gift of shepherding; many others in the church also have this gift. Equally as valuable to the building up of the Body of Christ (the church) is the spiritual gift of Teaching. This gift involves studying, understanding, explaining, and applying Scripture in such a way that people grow in their own understanding, are challenged, and are inspired to apply what they've learned. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 19. The Healing and Miraculous Powers spiritual gifts are given to the church often to authenticate a ministry, to encourage a body of believers or an individual believer, and to show the power of God. In the life and ministry of Jesus, healing was physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual. His miracles included the feeding of the multitudes, turning water into wine, raising of the dead, and walking on water. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.
- 20. The Tongues spiritual gift can be anything from speaking in an actual language (as at Pentecost) that others understand to a clarion call to God's gathered people to a private prayer language where one's spirit communes with God's Spirit and the meaning is understood or felt, but not necessarily translated. Interpretation of Tongues is the ability to understand the meaning of a message spoken in Tongues and speak that meaning to the hearers. Interpretation is not necessarily an exact translation, but a conveyance of the sense or gist of the message to those present. Praise God for those at our church who have this gift. Pray that they would faithfully use their gifts to glorify the Lord and strengthen the church.

For a free spiritual gifts assessment, based on these definitions—available to anyone/everyone in your ministry go to GodGiftsYou.com/Assessment. To consult with Shirley on how to design and implement a gifts-based equipping ministry, contact her at GodGiftsYou.com/Contact.