

Appendix 4

Spiritual Gifts Definitions*

Apostleship is the divine gift and calling to start new churches and ministries. People with this gift: have a clear vision to start new ministries; reach across cultural boundaries to reach new folks; are entrepreneurial; have a burning desire to reach people in other communities or countries. They are usually gifted leaders who influence others with their contagious enthusiasm. (1 Corinthians 12:28)

Evangelism is the ability to communicate the gospel to unbelievers so they respond in faith and move toward discipleship. People with this gift enjoy sharing their faith and faith story and have a burning passion to reach others. They seek relationships with unbelievers, often move conversation to spiritual matters in a natural way, and encourage and challenge others to become fully devoted followers of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11)

Faith equips the believer to move forward and act on God's promises without wavering regardless of circumstances. Christians with this gift: believe in the promises of God and inspire others to do the same; act in complete confidence of God's ability to overcome obstacles; demonstrate an attitude of trust in God's will; advance the cause of Christ because they go forward when others will not; ask God for what is needed and trust in God's provision. (1 Corinthians 12:8-10)

Leadership is the divine enablement to influence others to harmoniously accomplish the purposes of God. People with this gift: cast vision; motivate others; present the "big picture" for others to see; model the values of ministry; take responsibility and establish goals. They take stands and often see "God sized" visions. (Romans 12:6-8)

Teaching equips a person to understand and communicate information so that others within the church learn and grow. People with this gift tend to enjoy researching and learning why things are true. They also excel in finding ways to communicate what they have learned to others. They are gifted in being able to present information and spiritual truth in exciting and engaging ways that challenge others. (1 Corinthians 12:28)

*Resources for this list of spiritual gifts and definitions include *Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts: A Personal Inventory Method* by Kenneth Cain Kinghorn, Zondervan Publishing © 1981; and *Network: The Right People, In the Right Places, For the Right Reasons* by Bruce Bugbee, Don Cousins, and Bill Hybels with Wendy Seldman, Zondervan Publishing © 1994 Willow Creek Community Church.