

Divine Design Paper

by

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Spiritual Gifts:

1. Teaching is the gift that God gives to some people to teach and apply the word of God to people's lives, so that they may learn, grow in understanding, mature in their faith, and live their lives in a way that is pleasing to God.

- I have the ability to explain complex thought in simple ways to people.
- Some people come to me with their questions.
- I have a tendency at times to teach and discuss with others what I learn.
- I have taken a spiritual gift assessment before this one when I was training to be a missionary at Heart of God Ministries, a training institute and sending agency, in which I tested positive for having the spiritual gift to teaching.
- My score for this gift was the highest. I had a score of 33 for this gift.

Apostleship is the gift given by God to some to lead and oversee several churches at a time.

- I have the desire to start new organizations, ministries, and churches.
- I have interest in what God is doing globally in the house church movement.
- I would like to pastor a church that I personally started.
- I would like to start house churches/cell groups in a church that I pastor.
- My score for this gift was the highest. I had a score of 33 for this gift.

2. Prophecy is the gift in which God gives people the passion to proclaim His word for the correction and discipline of His children. It is also given for the encouraging and building up of the church.

- I am very concerned with the spiritual state of the church as a whole.
- I have sometimes corrected or rebuked people for their sin.
- I have a desire to see revival in the church.
- I am often concerned that the topics of hell, sin, judgement, and repentance are too often neglected by preachers and teachers.
- I had a high score for this gift. I scored 31.

3. Knowledge is the gift the God gives to some people for the edification of the church by which the Holy Spirit gives insight of the meaning of God's word to be applied to the lives of people.

- I have had insights of spiritual truths that have helped people.
- I study the Bible frequently to gain knowledge.
- Studying the Bible comes more natural to me than prayer.
- I had a score of 30 for this gift.

4. Faith is the spiritual gift that God gives some people to believe that He will accomplish His purposes.

- I have often been able to stand firm in my confidence of God's word.
- I can act on my belief that God will provide even when things look impossible or uncertain.
- I am personally surprised this was one of my top four gifts because I also a frequent tendency to be skeptical and doubt things.
- For this gift I scored 26.

Ministry Passion Assessment:

1. When I think of people in the ministry I desire to be most like:
 - Jonathan Edwards- His ability teach/preacher God's word, his theological understanding, his ability to be philosophical, his faithfulness to God's word, and advancement of missions through personal involvement and writing the "Life and Diary of David Brainard."
 - John Piper- His God-centered worldview, his ability to teach and preach convincingly, his faithfulness to God's word, his theological understanding, and his contributions to missions in his book "Let the Nations be Glad!"
 - William Carey- His desire to bring about the change that he was passionate about (having people go on the mission field) despite people discouraging him from it, his desire and fervor for missions, his faith in God, his ability to challenge and convince people of the need for mission agencies, and his ability to pioneer new organizations.
2. If I could be associated with a gifted Christian for special "on-the job training" I would choose:
 - John Piper- Training in teaching, preaching, and understanding God's word.
 - R.C. Sproul- Training in pastoring, teaching, preaching, and understanding the Bible.
 - Covenant Faculty- Training in theology, missions, biblical languages, and preaching.
3. If I could be involved or contribute to any ministry anywhere it would be:
 - A mission agency- Church planting and reaching unreached people groups.
 - A local church- Pastoring and planting new churches locally.
 - A seminary or university- Teaching Bible courses and writing academic papers.
4. As I have observed the needs and ministry opportunities in the church, I am drawn to serve in:
 - A pastoral position
 - A position as a missionary
 - Starting my own mission agency
 - A seminary or university
5. In the past others have commented that they have blessed or helped by my service when I did the following:
 - Taught the Bible
 - Preached
 - Played my guitar
 - Evangelized

- Started/attended prayer meeting

6. I am certain God has called me to a ministry of:

- Being involved with missions
- Teaching His word
- Preaching

Briggs-Mayer Personality Assessment:

(Descriptions taken from pgs. 35-39.)

I scored six points higher on the Introvert side of the scale than the extrovert. This means that when I am under stress I need seclusion to work through the problem and gather my thoughts. I tend to be focused on my thoughts more than what is going on around me. Being more introverted, I often feel challenged to keep conversations flowing and sometimes it is a challenge to socialize with people. E:21, I:27

I am significantly more intuitive than sensing. This means that I tend use my imagination and intuition more than my senses. I also do not like much of a routine. I like to think about possibilities to change and improve on things. I also tend to work by inspiration. S:15, N:35

I rely on thinking more than feeling. This means that I rely heavily on my reason rather than feelings. I tend to analyze and evaluate a lot of things. My mind most naturally goes to thinking about deep philosophical and theological issues. This also means that it takes me a longer time to make decisions than people who rely on their feeling because I have to think the issue through first. I also tend to be careful about what statements I think are true and to be more skeptical of propositional statements than some people. T:29, F:16

I am more perceiving than judging. Therefore, I like spontaneity and dislike having rigid planning and routines. I need some structure, but within that structure I need freedom to make decisions as I go along and freedom to change what I am doing. I also, like to try new things. Since, I am perceiving, I am unsystematic in how I go about everything including: writing papers, researching, studying, and planning events. J:11, P:33

INTP

(Taken from pgs. 30-42 of the 16 personality descriptions in “Equipping the Saints.”)

“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more in knowledge and depth of insight.” Philippians 1:9

Contribution to the Spiritual Community

- Relentlessly searching for truth in all things spiritual
- Finding out the long-term consequences of any given plan or strategy for action
- Pointing out errors of logic or sentimentality

- Providing clear, analytical frameworks for understanding

Leadership Style

- Winning respect through depth of knowledge
- Demonstrating ability to conceptualize an issue
- Influencing through theoretical ideas
- Making decisions from a sound, logical foundation

Preferred Environment for Service

- Providing an orderly approach to exploring spiritual issues
- Scholarly or intellectual endeavors
- Conceptualizing or blueprinting an outreach ministry, or service effort
- Program review and development

Common "Confessions"

- Getting too caught up in skepticism
- Attempting to intellectualize faith to the exclusion of the heart
- Ignoring physical and other tangible needs until problems arise
- Underestimating the personal needs of others, overriding their concerns

Possible Spiritual Helps

- Intellectually demanding and challenging Bible study
- Spiritual resources which demonstrate logically the principles of faith
- Reflection, prayer, and meditation
- Spiritual direction with accountability for continuing their Christian growth

DEAA Scale Temperament

<p>“Driver” <u>3</u> Rapid Paced <u>14</u> Task Oriented</p> <p>Total: 17</p>	<p>“Analytical” Deliberate Paced <u>17</u> Task Oriented <u>14</u></p> <p>Total: 31</p>
<p>“Expressive” <u>3</u> Rapid Paced <u>6</u> Relationally Oriented</p> <p>Total: 9</p>	<p>“Amiable” Deliberate Paced <u>17</u> Relationally Oriented <u>6</u></p> <p>Total: 23</p>

I am an Analytical Amiable with more of a Driver temperament than an Expressive temperament.

(Descriptions from pgs. 43-48)

Strengths: I tend to think through things before I make decisions. I am a cautious thinker, therefore, I do not accept much at face-value. When I write papers, I am always most concerned about the content. I like to do research and think through implications of statements. Being amiable, I also enjoy being around people. I tend to be self-sacrificing, meaning I will frequently sacrifice my own interests, likes, and desires to be accomodating to people. I am generally supportive of people in their pursuits. I value loyalty and devotion to people.

Weaknesses: Because I analyze and evaluate everything I sometimes struggle with being too skeptical and critical. Because I often pay attention to detail I can at times be picky. I also frequently have a desire to be right, which is not always helpful in my relationships. Since, I am also self-sacrificing I frequently will accomodate people to the point that I feel like I am not showing enough self-love to myself, meaning I feel like I do not take my own interests into account as much as I should.

Evangelistic Styles:

(Descriptions taken from pgs. 59-60)

Intellectual: I take an apologetic/philosophical approach to evangelism by thinking through and presenting arguments. I take questions as they come to me from people and try to answer them to the best of my ability. Whatever question I am not able to answer, I study and think about, I then give an answer later. I get frustrated when people give answers that use poor logic or are not well thought out. I always aim to understand why people believe the things that they do. I also have a strong tendency to be analytical. I always aim to be biblically sound, and well reasoned in the answers that I give to people. Therefore, I have a tendency to study the Bible. For example, in order to be biblically sound I practice exegeting texts using the historical-grammatical method of Bible interpretation. Having already studied some subjects such as hermeneutics and biblical languages I aim to use what I already know to study. I also frequently try to enrich my knowledge of hermeneutics and greek. I also tend to study different logics such as proposition logic, predicate logic, and modal logic to be able to be well reasoned. I also study other issues in philosophy such as metaphysics, epistemology, and philosophy of religion. I use my knowledge in biblical interpretation and philosophy to give answers to questions and solve problems. This is the style of evangelism on which I scored the highest. I scored 17.

Interpersonal: I favor a relational style of evangelism. I like to build relationships with people and let me life be a witness to the gospel. As I get to a person better I will typically try to take more opportunities to share the gospel with that person. However, sometimes it can be easy to focus more on the relationship than on sharing the message of the gospel with that person. I enjoy long talks that enable me to get to know a person better, even though I may have trouble keeping the conversation going, interesting, and paying attention. I love being around people, despite the fact that I can be quiet and struggle to be conversational. I scored 12 for this style of evangelism.

Invitational: If I know of an outreach or event that would be helpful to someone I would not hesitate to invite them. This style of evangelism often complements my interpersonal style. If I am developing a relationship with a non-christian to be a witness, I may invite them to my church in order to share something with them that is important to me, while hoping that God will begin to bring them to Him through their attendance of the service. I scored 11 for this style of evangelism.

Confrontational: At times I can be very direct in what I say. Some people have commented on this saying that they thought it is funny it I could be so direct when they have perceived me to be quiet and reserved. At times, I also have a tendency to want to tell people the truth even though it may be hurtful out of love. My score for this style of evangelism is 10.

Serving: I love to help other people. Often, I like to demonstrate love through my actions rather than my words. I score 10 for this style.

Testimonial: I will sometimes share parts of my own life story to witness to people and reach them for Christ. I scored lowest for this style. I scored 9.

**Talent Inventory:
(Taken from pgs. 66-70)**

Writing Words: Writing clearly understood reports, letters, essays, stories, scripts, advertisements, contracts, curricula, magazine articles, and the like.

Teaching: Helping others fully understand a subject, topic, or idea in a classroom, seminar, workshop, club, association, church, or other group setting.

Composing Music: Expressing my thoughts or feelings by writing, composing, or arranging works of music.

Familiar Group Relational: Preferring to be with people I already know. Also willing to meet new people or work on a task by myself.

Creating: Coming up with new ways to do things, improving routine tasks, looking at traditions with new viewpoints, questioning outdated regulations or procedures.

Imagining: Spending time imagining new stories, theories, and science fiction ideas, philosophical concepts, and the like (also referred to as daydreaming).

Researching/Investigating: Collecting a lot of information from different sources about one or more subjects for present use or future reference (may include field research).

Remembering: Recalling names, numbers, or other details quickly and accurately without much effort.

Analyzing: Looking over an object to see how it is put together; studying a subject or opinion to determine its good and bad points and how it compares to other items.

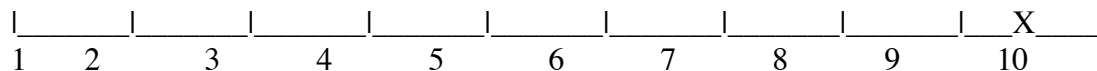
Life Values in Order of Priority (Taken from pgs. 71-72)

1. Happiness: Finding satisfaction, joy, or pleasure
2. Love: Cherishing others
3. Family: Placing importance on maintaining familial relationships
4. Friendship: Placing importance on close, personal relationships
5. Learning: Lifelong commitment to growing in understanding
6. Advancement: Striving to move ahead rapidly, gaining opportunities for growth
7. Contribution: Giving or making a difference for others
8. Recognition: Desiring the respect of others or credit for achievements

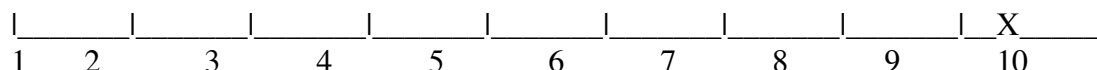
Knowledge, Attitudes, Character and Skills for Vocational Ministry:

5 Strengths:

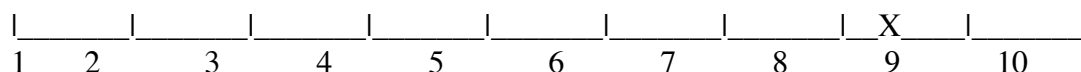
18. Doing Theology Skill: Given an issue, is able to develop a Biblical perspective on it and apply that perspective.



28. Questioning Skill: able to gather information from stimulating insight in individuals and groups through use of interviews, questionnaires, and other probing methods.

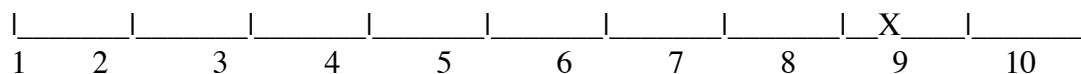


20. Evangelistic Outreach Skill: Is able to model evangelism practices and ways to lead others to Christ.



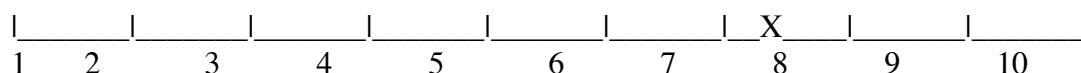
1. Intrinsically motivated

- having a desire to do well for the Lord through a commitment to excellence.



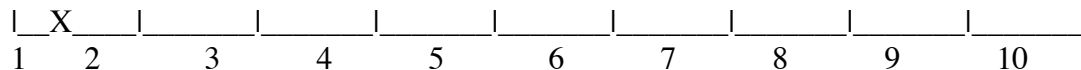
5. Committed to spiritual health for the church

- appreciating steady and consistent growth without preoccupation with the quick success factor



5 Weaknesses:

29. Conflict Management Skill: able to manage conflict openly, tactfully and biblically. Is not a source of conflict through either abrasiveness or poor judgment. Does not avoid unwarranted conflict either through denial or unrealistic appraisal of situations.



15. Motivating skill: knows how to encourage people through personal enthusiasm, expectancy, openness and modeling of their life before people.

| X | | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

31. Time Management Skill: knows how to set limits to availability and prioritize responsibilities. Able to schedule time for direct and indirect people involvement.

| | X | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

21. Assimilation Skill: knows how to orient and enfold new members into meaningful relationships and ministry. Is able to facilitate small group process.

| | X | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

22. Gift Identification Skill: Is able to articulate a biblically based understanding of spiritual gifts. Can identify leadership capabilities and spiritual gifts in others through observation/discernment and appropriate inventories. Is able to identify the knowledge and skill requirements of jobs, tasks, and roles. Can match gifts of people with ministry needs and opportunities.

| | X | | | | | | | | |
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Personal Mission Statement:

My mission is to do all to the glory of God by teaching God's people, helping to advance missions, winning people to Christ, starting new churches, and helping people to grow in their understanding of God's riches so that they may grow spiritually.

Implementation Strategy:

Continue with my plans to teach Sunday School and to help with the "Fall Evangelism Series" at Crossroads Presbyterian Fellowship, Try to go on some missions trips. Continue working on my Master of Divinity degree at Covenant Seminary. Aim to go on and get my Master of Theology degree upon completing my Master of Divinity. Pray to God for guidance concerning what He wants me to do specifically.