

Discovering and Developing Our
Spiritual Gifts
Part 5

Understanding Common
Characteristics of Motivational
Gifts

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Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)
⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷ If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸ if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

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1 Corinthians 14:3 (NIV)
³ But everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.

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Common Characteristics of Perceivers

- They quickly identify good and evil, right and wrong.
- They are willing to confront sin and call for repentance.
- They have strong opinions and convictions.

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Luke 3:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

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Common Characteristics of Servers

- They recognize practical needs and they are quick to meet them.
- They are well organized and give attention to details.
- They would rather do the work themselves then delegate it.

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Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

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Common Characteristics of Teachers

- They enjoy study and research.
- They enjoy presenting truth in logical and systematic ways.
- They greatly value objective teaching and prefer expository Bible teaching rather than topical teaching.

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Acts 18:24-25 (NIV)

²⁴ Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. ²⁵ He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John.

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Acts 18:26-28 (NIV)

²⁶ He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately. When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. On arriving, he was a great help to those who by the grace had believed. For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

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**Common Characteristics of
Exhorter/Encouragers**

- They enjoy encouraging and exhorting people more than doing research and study.
- They tend to be optimists who see trials as opportunities for people to grow.
- They prefer communication that has practical application rather than just academic knowledge.

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Acts 11:22-26 (NIV)

²² News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. ²³ When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. ²⁴ He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

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Acts 11:22-26 (NIV)

²⁵ Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶ and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

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Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)

⁶ Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.
