

FINDING YOUR PURPOSE

TIPS TO A SUCCESSFUL GROUP

- **START & FINISH ON TIME.** Doing this will show your small group you value their time.

Discovering God's Purposes for Your Life

ICEBREAKER

If God gave out superhero powers as spiritual gifts, what would yours be—and how would you use it to help others?

INTRODUCTION

You weren't created randomly. You were crafted by God on purpose, with purpose, for a purpose. But how do you discover what His plans and purposes are? Your purpose isn't found by accident—it's revealed through how God uniquely designed you.

*What God made you to **BE**
determines what He wants you to **DO!***

Over the next four weeks, we'll help you discover how God uniquely designed you so you can better understand what He's calling you to do.

The first 3 weeks include a short assessment and small group discussion to help you reflect and apply what you've learned. In Week 4, we'll bring it all together to explore how you can live out your God-given purpose.

This week, we begin by helping you discover and deploy your Spiritual Gifts.

READ |

You are gifted! God didn't just save you, He *equipped* you. Scripture says every believer has been given at least one spiritual gift by the Holy Spirit, but most people have been given a few.

A spiritual gift is a divine ability given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to serve others and build up the Body of Christ (His church).

Spiritual gifts aren't about being "super spiritual." They're about God working through ordinary people to bless them, bless others, and build His Church.

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago. — Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

You are not an accident. You are a masterpiece! Before you were born, God planned "good things" for you to do. He has placed spiritual gifts in you to help you accomplish what He put you on earth to do.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others...
— 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

What's one thing you enjoy or feel fulfilled doing—something that might be a clue to a spiritual gift God has placed in you?

READ |

When you know your spiritual gifts, you know your lanes. Most frustration in life comes from operating *outside* of your gifting or *withholding* it from others.

Now about spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant.
— 1 Corinthians 12:1 (NIV)

In other words, God wants you to identify the spiritual gifts He gave you and use them to serve others. Many believers go through life unaware of the spiritual gifts God has placed

within them—but you don’t have to. Discovering your spiritual gifts helps you identify some of the ways God wants you to help others, which leads to joy, fulfillment, and a stronger sense of purpose.

How might ignoring or downplaying your spiritual gifts affect the people God has called you to serve?

READ |

In several key passages, the Bible says there are at least twenty different spiritual gifts:

- **Romans 12:6-8** - **1 Corinthians 12:1-11** - **Ephesians 4:7-13** - **1 Peter 4:10-11**

Set aside a few moments this week to prayerfully dive into these scriptures. They offer meaningful insights into the various spiritual gifts and can help you better understand how each one plays a role in the church and in your community.

Next, you will take a ***Spiritual Gifts Assessment***. This isn’t a test—just a tool to help you discover how God uniquely designed you. No one’s grading you. Just answer honestly, and have fun with it!

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT

- **ADMINISTRATION:** The ability to organize tasks, systems, and people in a way that brings structure and clarity to a vision. Administrators help turn big-picture goals into effective, practical steps. (*1 Corinthians 12:28*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **APOSTLE:** The ability to pioneer new ministries, plant churches, or bring the gospel into new or unreached areas. Apostles are often entrepreneurial, visionary leaders who thrive in starting new churches, ministries or businesses. (*Ephesians 4:11*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **DISCERNMENT:** The ability to recognize truth from deception and distinguish between what is spiritually good and what is harmful or false. People with this gift bring clarity and protection to the church by helping others stay grounded in God's truth. (*1 Corinthians 12:10*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **EXHORTATION (ENCOURAGEMENT):** The ability to uplift, strengthen, and inspire others through words of hope, comfort, or practical guidance. Encouragers help people keep going in faith, especially during times of doubt, fear, or discouragement. (*Romans 12:8*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **EVANGELISM:** The ability to clearly and effectively communicate the message of salvation through Jesus Christ. Evangelists have a deep passion for reaching the lost. (*Ephesians 4:11*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **FAITH:** The ability to trust God confidently and consistently, regardless of circumstances or outcomes. People with this gift inspire others by demonstrating unwavering belief in God's promises and power. (*1 Corinthians 12:9*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **GIVING:** The ability to joyfully and generously share resources—such as time, money, or possessions—to meet the needs of others and advance God's work. Those with this gift give freely and faithfully, often with little need for recognition. (*Romans 12:8*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **HEALING:** The ability to be a channel of God's power to bring physical, emotional, or spiritual healing. Those with this gift often have deep compassion and believe boldly in God's desire to restore wholeness. (*1 Corinthians 12:9*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **HOSPITALITY:** The ability to make others feel welcomed and at home by creating warm, caring environments where people can relax, connect, and feel cared for—often through fellowship, food, or a place to stay. (*1 Peter 4:9*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **LEADERSHIP:** The ability to inspire, guide, and motivate others to work together toward God's vision and purpose. Leaders provide direction and encouragement, helping teams stay focused and effective in fulfilling their mission. (*Romans 12:8*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **MUSIC:** The ability to express worship, encouragement, and biblical truth through playing instruments, singing, or composing music, and leading others into deeper connection with God through heartfelt musical expression. (*Psalms 33:2-3*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **MERCY:** The ability to genuinely feel and show compassion to those who are hurting or in need. Those with this gift offer comfort and practical help, reflecting God’s love through kindness and empathy. (*Romans 12:8*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **MIRACLES:** The ability to believe and receive God’s power to perform supernatural acts that confirm His presence and glorify Him. Those with this gift inspire faith by witnessing God’s extraordinary intervention in everyday life. (*1 Corinthians 12:10*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **PASTORING:** The ability to care for, nurture, and guide others spiritually like a shepherd tends to their flock. Those with this gift provide encouragement and guidance to help others grow in their faith. (*Ephesians 4:11*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **TONGUES:** The ability to speak or pray in a language unknown to the speaker, inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit. This gift builds personal spiritual strength and can also be used to edify the church when interpreted. (*1 Corinthians 14:2*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **TEACHING:** The ability to teach others in a way that inspires, challenges, and at times convicts listeners. Those with this gift communicate Scripture clearly to encourage spiritual growth and transformation. (*2 Timothy 4:2*)

I’m pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don’t think I have this gift

- **SERVING (HELPS):** The ability to joyfully meet practical needs with humility and dedication, often working behind the scenes without seeking recognition. Those with this gift show Christ's love through faithful, hands-on help. (*Romans 12:7*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **PROPHECY:** The ability to hear from God and share His message with others. This can mean speaking about something that will happen in the future or simply revealing something applicable to today. People with this gift help others stay close to God by encouraging, warning, or challenging them to live the way God wants. (*Romans 12:6*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **WISDOM:** The ability to offer godly counsel and insights that go beyond natural understanding, helping others make decisions that honor God. Those with this gift bring clarity and perspective rooted in divine truth. (*Proverbs 2:6*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

- **PRAYER (INTERCESSION):** The ability to consistently pray on behalf of and for others, seeing frequent and specific results. (*1 Peter 4:9-10*)

I'm pretty sure I have this gift

I may have this gift

I don't think I have this gift

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

- **Write** your top 3 Spiritual Gifts on the “*God’s Purposes for My Life*” page (Page 5). **Then come back to this page (13) and discuss the following questions with your group:**
- **GROUP DISCUSSION:** Share one of your top spiritual gifts with the group. Where are you already using this gift—at home, work, church, or somewhere else? If you’re not using it yet, where might God be inviting you to start?

Now that you know your Spiritual Gifts...
TEST DRIVE A MINISTRY!

Scan the QR code to find and try out a ministry for 4 weeks!



CLOSE IN PRAYER:

Father God, thank You for creating us with purpose and giving each of us unique gifts to serve others and honor You. Help us not only to discover our gifts, but to use them—boldly and faithfully—in our homes, workplaces, communities, and church. When we feel uncertain, please give us clarity. When we feel hesitant, please give us courage. Help us walk into each day with confidence, knowing You’ve already equipped us for something meaningful. In Jesus’ name, amen.



Make Time to be in God's WORD

Reading God's Word daily re-patterns the way you think & transforms your mind. Doing your daily devotions is an excellent way to record, process, & share what God is teaching you on a personal level. We do this using S.O.A.P.

- S** - Scripture
- O** - Observation
- A** - Application
- P** - Prayer

Here's an example:

S: *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "*
--Matthew 4:4 (NIV)

O: Jesus said that we can't live on food alone. Our life is sustained through His Word.

A: Just as food is important to me, God's Word is even more because it will sustain me and give me the strength to live out my life.

P: Jesus, thank You for reminding me that I need Your Word to give me the wisdom & strength to follow You. Help me to make time to spend with You daily. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

SCRIPTURES FOR S.O.A.P.

Day 1:

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

—1 Corinthians 12:4–6 (NLT)

Day 2:

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters... It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

—Colossians 3:23–24 (NIV)

Day 3:

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

—1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

Day 4:

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you...

—2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV)

Day 5:

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

—1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)