

SOP: How can I Recognize my Spiritual Gifts-vs-Developed Talents

- Both can be employed in the service of the Kingdom
- Spiritual gifts are from beyond our human nature, ability or capacity.
- There is a difference between the fruit of the Spirit and gifts of the Spirit
- Spiritual gifts build up/strengthen a marriage, family, congregation or city
- Gifts are given to encourage, edify, or comfort the Church
- Spiritual gifts impact spiritual growth in a community.

Consecration:

- Am I willing to be set apart/ exposed by the Holy Spirit—in order to be used by Him?
- Am I willing to repent or refrain from using His gifts and ministry opportunities to achieve my purposes and priorities?
- Am I willing to remain unknown or used in secret—that He might receive all the glory?
- How much time is available in your life for His service?
- Are you submitted to saying what you hear Him saying? Doing what you see Him doing?

Discernment:

- What brings me the greatest joy when I am serving others?
- When am I most likely to recognize the needs of another individual or group?
- If I could effect change in my family, what would it be?
- If I could effect change in my neighborhood, what would it be?
- If I could effect change in my church, what would it be?
- If I could effect change in my city, what would it be?
- What area of ministry causes me to feel most energized?
- What area of ministry leaves me feeling drained?
- Are there any opportunities available around you? Do you feel like you could make a contribution by serving there?

Preparation:

- Do you recognize when the Holy Spirit wants to speak in the midst of a gathering?
- Do you recognize the difference between operating in strength of soul and the impulse of the Holy Spirit?
- Do I know the difference between His thoughts and my own thinking?
- How familiar are you with the Word of God? Are you able to recognize deception when it is introduced in a book, conversation, or a teaching?
- Doors open relationally. Are you always prepared to give an answer for your hope?(I Peter 3:15)
- Do you recognize where God is at work in your own life? (So you can give an account)
- When do you feel most alive/wholehearted when engaging with others?
- Do you know someone who flows in their spiritual gifts in a mature manner? What have you learned by watching them?

Affirmation:

- Do others affirm your words or actions in a ministry situation?
- How well do you function in a team capacity?
- Are you correctible?
- What do others seek you out for? (i.e. encouragement, wisdom, service...)
- Talents can be recognized through self-assessment. Are you in submission to others believers that you trust to speak into your life?