

Finding Your Gift



by

**Vincent (Vini) Nuñez MAPM
Agape Life Coaching LLC
www.agapelifecoaching.com**

Finding Your Gift

As you begin to live a transformational life, the next step is to find your unique gift that God has bestowed upon you. Although finding your gift can be a journey in itself, each person on earth possesses a unique gift. Using this special gift and passion will help you find fulfillment in your life. It is also the gift that God needs you to use in order to build his kingdom on



earth. If you have the gift of prayer there may be someone out there in great need of a prayer warrior. If you are great with children, there may be a church in need of a religious education teacher or nursery provider. The Bible speaks of the varied gifts that people can possess or attain in their transformational life. As you begin to live a transformational life you will notice some gifts shine brighter than others. They are the ones that give you peace and comfort as you use them frequently. If you still haven't found your gift, I have an exercise for you to help you in this process.

In the Bible the disciples received various gifts. They experienced gifts of healing and tongues but your gift doesn't have to be this extreme. You

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may have a gift of speaking and connecting with youth, sharing your marriage story with newly weds, or sharing your own personal life changing story. You may have great administrative skills therefore being a great asset behind the scenes. Some gifts

can be teaching, preaching, praying or listening. As you begin to step out and take a chance to use these gifts you will be blessed ten fold. You will see the blessings come upon you like a flood of



water. The affirmations will overwhelm you and you will know that these are your gifts. So, how do you find these gifts? What is the key to knowing how to serve God and others? Well, here is an exercise to help you find your gift. As you begin to discover your gift, just remember you don't have to be perfect at it just jump in and test it. Evaluate yourself and ask input from others to ensure this is your true calling.

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Exercise to Discover Your Gifts

List 8 skills you have gained or want to learn. These skills can be from previous employment, volunteer, family upbringing or a new skill that stirs your heart every time you think about it.

Here is an example: These may not be your skills but this can get you started.

- 1. Public speaking - Maybe you already speak in front of groups possibly at work.**
- 2. Teaching - You might be a teacher or interested in the field of teaching.**
- 3. Kids – Possibly work at a daycare, girl scouts, or a little league coach and the kids love you.**
- 4. Cook - People say your cooking is great! You enjoy cooking especially for large groups.**
- 5. Elder Care - Possibly from experience with a family member or you have loving patience to lend a listening ear to those that feel alone.**

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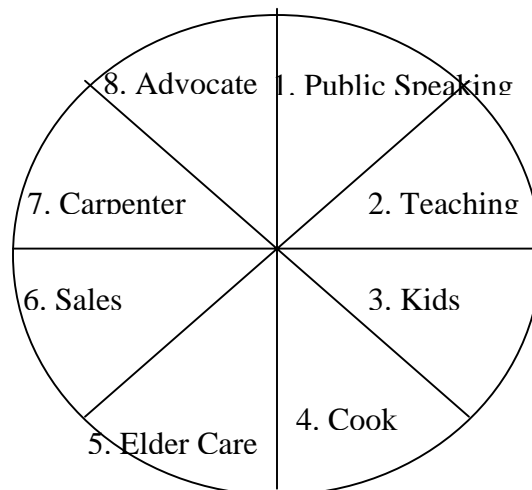
6. Sales - You may do this as a profession and be pretty good at it.

Imagine what you can do with the church school fundraiser.

7. Trade skill (Carpentry, Painter, electrician). There are plenty of people unable to do simple jobs in their home. They can be the elderly or single parents.

8. Advocate - Possibly a new skill that you want to learn such as an advocate for the poor, elderly, immigrant, handicap or those suffering with illness.

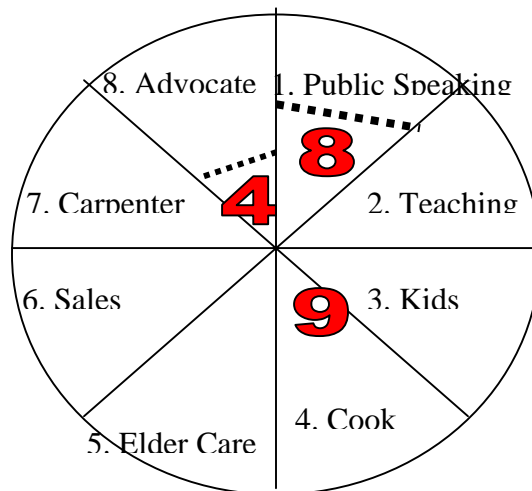
Now, take your 8 skills and put them into a pie as such.



Next, on a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest) rate how much you are involved in each skill. For example, the person in the example can

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rate himself/herself as being an 8 in public speaking. They do this every day at work and are very confident in front of groups. Looking at the skill of cook, maybe you enjoy cooking and love to hear people compliment your food. You can rate yourself a 9. On the other hand, a person can be a 4 as an advocate. They have a great passion for social justice but do not know how to be an advocate. Do this for each of your own skills.



After you rate each skill, examine one at a time and ask yourself, “How can this skill be used for God’s kingdom?” For example:

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1. Public speaking. You may be a great public speaker at work. You may not enjoy the topics you speak about at work but what if they had to do with the salvation of souls. What if God is calling you to be a speaker for “Vacation Bible School” or as a lector proclaiming the scriptures at your church? You may exude the confidence needed to convey important messages in your church.

4. Cook. How about the great food you cook at home? What if you used this skill as a fundraiser for the youth group or other needed organization?

6. Sales – You may be a great salesperson at work. Imagine using this skill for the kingdom of God. It often takes a good sales person to get someone motivated to attend the first meeting of a group. You may be that person. You may even be the person that runs the yearly fundraising golf tournament raising money for your church or community.

8. Advocate. You may have a great passion for the poor or underserved. You constantly see people in need of food or shelter.

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They may be people you personally know. There are many groups willing to train those with a passion to serve others. Find these groups, volunteer with them, and learn how it is done.

In finding your purpose, gift and talents you will find fulfillment. You will find your life purpose. Ultimately our purpose is to serve God in all that we do. Remember the question to ask yourself; “How can this skill be used for God’s kingdom?” How might you take it further? What other skills, gifts, and talents do you have? Have you noticed any new gifts surfacing in your life? Do you feel yourself praying more for others or understanding the scriptures with eyes wide open?



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Teaching highlights: Find your gift

Practical exercise to discover your gift.

Find fulfillment and purpose.

Use your newly acquired gifts

Scripture:

“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-13

“ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; Romans 12:6-9

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Something to Ponder:

- What gifts do you have?
- How can you use these gifts for the kingdom of God?
- If you still couldn't hone in on some of your gifts try this simple exercise: Imagine you already know what your gift is (nothing specific here), what would you be doing differently to serve the Lord?
- How will you know when you have found your gift?