

“The Gifts Path”

Based on Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)

September 23, 2014

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

Romans 12:6a - We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

† I have Spiritual gifts freely given to me by God.

† Not everyone has the same Spiritual gifts nor all the gifts.

† The Gifts in this list fall into 2 categories:

1) Gifts of speaking (words)

2) Gifts of servicing (actions).

Romans 12:6b-8

6b If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach;

8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

† **Prophets = Communicate God's revealed truth.**

† **Servers = Assist and Support.**

† **Teachers = Instruct and clarify.**

† **Encouragers = Counsel, advise and challenge.**

† **Givers = See needs and gives to meet them.**

† **Leaders = Have vision and give direction.**

† **Merciful = Show compassion and kindness.**

† **My gifts from God are not for having but for using.**

† **My gifts fulfill their value as they are used for the benefit of others.**

Applying Today's Message to My Life:

† What gift do I remember getting?

† When I give a gift to someone, do I want them to use it or set it aside?

† What Spiritual gift(s) has God given me?

† Do I use my Spiritual gift or set it aside?

- If I use it, how? If I do not use it, why not?

† How can I use my Spiritual Gift from God to help build up the body of Christ (the church)?

Discipleship Pathway - First United Methodist Church, Sioux City, Iowa

	A) Beginning in Christ	B) Growing in Christ	C) Maturing in Christ	D) Sharing Christ
Prayers (Spiritual Disciples)	I do not pray on my own or outside of a worship service. I do not read Scripture.	I take time each day to be in prayer and I occasionally read Scripture.	I pray for others and I have a daily devotional including reading Scripture.	I integrate spiritual disciplines into my daily life.
Presence (Worship & Small Groups)	I attend worship once a month.	I attend worship twice a month.	I attend worship twice a month and I am in a small group.	I attend worship unless I am working, ill, or out of town and I lead or regularly participate in a small group.
Gifts (Ministry, Time & Money)	I am unaware of the gifts God has given me. I do not give of my time or money.	I have identified my spiritual gifts. I give sporadically of my time and money.	I have found intentional ways of using my gifts within the church. I give regularly of my time and money.	I mentor others with similar gifts. I continue to give regularly of my time and money (tithe).
Service (Mission at FUMC)	I do not serve with the church's existing missions. I might serve if someone directly asks me.	I ask to serve with one of our existing missions.	I already serve at least monthly in one of the church's existing missions.	I help to lead mission and am attentive to new opportunities.
Witness (Evangelism)	I do not talk about my faith to others.	I talk about my faith if asked.	I openly discuss my faith.	I openly discuss my faith and actively invite others to church and small groups.

Discipleship Pathway Self-Assessment

(Choose which answer identifies you the best then match your answers with the chart above)

1. This best describes my **Prayer** life:

- A. I do not pray on my own or outside of a worship service. I do not read Scripture.
- B. I take time each day to be in prayer and I occasionally read Scripture.
- C. I pray for others and I have a daily devotional including reading Scripture.
- D. I integrate spiritual disciplines into my daily life.

2. This best describes the importance of **Presence** in my life:

- A. I attend worship once a month.
- B. I attend worship twice a month.
- C. I attend worship twice a month and I am in a small group.
- D. I attend worship unless I am working, ill, or out of town and I lead or regularly participate in a small group.

3. This best describes how I use my **Gifts**:

- A. I am unaware of the gifts God has given me. I do not give of my time or money.
- B. I have identified my spiritual gifts. I give sporadically of my time and money.
- C. I have found intentional ways of using my gifts within the church. I give regularly of my time and money.
- D. I mentor others with similar gifts. I continue to give regularly of my time and money (tithe).

4. This best describes my life of **Service** with the Church:

- A. I do not serve with the church's existing missions. I might serve if someone directly asks me.
- B. I ask to serve with one of our existing missions.
- C. I already serve at least monthly in one of the church's existing missions.
- D. I help to lead mission and am attentive to new opportunities.

5. This best describes my **Witness** to the wider world:

- A. I do not talk about my faith to others.
- B. I talk about my faith if asked.
- C. I openly discuss my faith.
- D. I openly discuss my faith and actively invite others to church and small groups.