

CONNECT CLASS 3: EXPLORE

Class 1 taught us that Jesus has called us to follow Him and become His disciple, doing all that He did. Class 2 then went on to teach us that we are called together as the Church, which has a vision from God to fulfil a specific calling. No Church vision is better than another, but it is important to find a church which feels like home and is the right fit.

Class 3 will now help you explore what God has given you in order for you to play a part in the Church. To do this we will use three tools: the spiritual gifts questionnaire, the personal style questionnaire and the passion questionnaire. Please note that these questionnaires are man-made therefore not holding all authority, but they can be used as a tool for you to explore your purpose a bit deeper.

1. SPIRITUAL GIFTS QUESTIONNAIRE

DIRECTIONS:

1. Please remember to answer the questions based upon who you are at this moment, not who you want to be or who people expect you to be.
2. This is not a test. There are no right or wrong answers – only true facts about your experience and preference according to the following statements below.
3. Read the 72 statements, rating each one from 0-4 on the statement that is truest in your life.

- 0 – Not at all
- 1 – Little
- 2 – Moderately
- 3 – Considerably
- 4 – Strongly

4. For best results, do not review the Gift Key until you have answered all the statements.
5. When you find a statement with two or more parts, and you rate any one as not true in your life, then mark the whole question with a low number. In other words, if you think one part is true, but another part is not, rate the whole question with a low number.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS DISCOVERY:

1. I enjoy working behind the scenes, taking care of little details.
2. I usually step forward and assume leadership in a group where none exists.
3. When in a group, I tend to notice those who are alone and help them feel part of the group.
4. I have the ability to recognize a need and to get the job done no matter how small the task.
5. I have the ability to organize ideas, people and projects to reach a specific goal.
6. People often say I have good spiritual judgment.
7. I am very confident of achieving great things for the glory of God.
8. I enjoy giving money to those in serious financial need.
9. I enjoy ministering to people in hospitals, prisons, or rest homes to comfort them.
10. I often have insights that offer practical solutions to difficult problems.
11. I enjoy encouraging and giving counsel to those who are discouraged.
12. I have an ability to thoroughly study a passage of Scripture and then share it with others.
13. I presently have the responsibility to the spiritual growth of one or more young Christians.
14. Other people respect me as an authority in spiritual matters.
15. I have an ability to learn foreign languages.
16. God often reveals to me the direction He desires the Body of Christ to move.
17. I enjoy developing relationships with non-Christians with the hope of telling them about Jesus.
18. Whenever I hear about needy situations, I am burdened to pray.
19. I would like to assist pastors or other leaders so they can focus on their priority ministries.
20. When I ask people to help me with an important ministry for the church, they usually say yes.
21. I enjoy entertaining guests and making them feel “at home” when they visit.
22. I take initiative to serve and enjoy serving others, no matter how small the task.
23. I am a very organised person who sets goals, makes plans, and achieves goals.
24. I am a good judge of character and can spot a spiritual phony.
25. I often step out and start projects that other people won't attempt, and I usually succeed.
26. I joyfully give money well above my tithe to the church.
27. I feel compassion for people who are hurting and lonely, and I like to spend considerable time with them to cheer them up.
28. God has enabled me to choose correctly between several complex options in an important decision, when no one else knew what to do.
29. I am very fulfilled when I encourage others, especially if it is about their spiritual growth.

30. I enjoy studying difficult questions about God's Word, and I usually find the answers quickly.
31. I enjoy being involved in people's lives and helping them grow spiritually.
32. I would be willing and excited to start a new church.
33. I can adapt easily to cultures, languages, and lifestyles other than my own, and would like to use my adaptability to minister in foreign countries.
34. I will always speak up for Christian principles with conviction, even when it is not popular.
35. I find it easy to invite a person to accept Jesus as their Saviour.
36. I have a passion to pray for the significant issues of God's kingdom and His will for Christians.
37. I enjoy relieving others of routine tasks so they can get important projects done.
38. I can guide and motivate a group of people toward achieving a specific goal.
39. I enjoy meeting new people and introducing them to others in the group.
40. I am very dependable for getting things done on time, and I don't need much praise or thanks.
41. I easily delegate significant responsibilities to other people.
42. I am able to distinguish between right and wrong in complex spiritual matters when other people can't seem to figure it out.
43. I trust in God's faithfulness for a bright future even when facing significant problems.
44. I wouldn't mind lowering my standard of living to give more to the church and others in need.
45. I want to do whatever I can for the needy people around me, even if I have to give up something.
46. People often seek my advice when they don't know what to do in a situation.
47. I feel a need to challenge others to better themselves, especially in their spiritual growth, in an uplifting, rather than condemning way.
48. Others listen and enjoy my teaching of Scriptures.
49. I care about the spiritual welfare of people, and do my best to guide them toward a godly lifestyle.
50. I am accepted as a spiritual authority in other parts of the country or world.
51. I would like to present the Gospel in a foreign language, in a country different than my own.
52. I feel a need to speak God's biblical messages so people will know what God expects of them.
53. I like to tell others how to become a Christian and invite them to receive Jesus into their life.
54. Many of my prayers for others have been answered by the Lord.
55. I enjoy helping others get their work done, and I don't need a lot of public recognition.
56. People respect my opinion and follow my direction.
57. I would like to use my home to get acquainted with newcomers and visitors to the church.
58. I enjoy helping people in any type of need and feel a sense of satisfaction in meeting that need.
59. I am comfortable making important decisions, even under pressure.
60. People come to me for help in distinguishing between spiritual truth and error.
61. I often exercise my faith through prayer, and God answers my prayers in powerful ways.
62. When I give money to someone, I don't expect anything in return, and I often give anonymously.
63. When I hear of people without jobs who can't pay their bills, I do what I can to help them.
64. God enables me to make appropriate application of biblical truth to practical situations.
65. People respond well to my encouragement to become all they can be for God.
66. I am systematic in my approach to presenting bible lessons to a group of people.
67. I help Christians, who have wandered away from the Lord, find their way back to a growing relationship with Him and get involved in a local church.
68. I would be excited to share the Gospel and form new groups of Christians in areas where there aren't many churches.
69. I have no racial prejudice and have a sincere appreciation for people very different from myself.
70. I find it relatively easy to apply biblical promises to present day situations, and I'm willing to confront in love, if necessary.
71. I have a strong desire to help non-Christians find salvation through Jesus Christ.
72. Prayer is my favourite ministry in the church & I consistently spend a great deal of time at it.

NOW:

- Add up the 18 rows of 4 numbers and enter the totals in the "total" column.
- Turn to the GIFTS KEY page and find the 18 gifts listed from A to R.
- On your answer sheet, write in the name of the gifts corresponding with your high scores
- There is not a specific number needed to "get the gift!" Your highest scores indicate which gifts are yours. For example, if you have two 7's, and 8 and two 9's as your highest scores, then those are your gifts. If you have four 16's those are your gifts.
- You may wish to write in all 18 gift names on your answer sheet to compare your strong gifts with those that are not your strongest.

REMEMBER:

- There are no 'better than' gifts. Each is a GIFT from God to use for His service.
- You must know that this is a human developed tool to help you and therefore it is not the final say. God has the final say on which gifts He would want you to have.

2. PERSONAL STYLE QUESTIONNAIRE

How are you ENERGISED?

1. I am more comfortable...

Doing things
For people



Being with
people

2. When doing a task, I tend to....

Focus on
The goal



Focus on
relationships

3. I get more excited about...


Advancing
A cause



Creating
community

4. I feel I have accomplished something when I've...

Completed
A job



Built a
relationship

5. It is more important to start a meeting...

On time



When everyone
gets there

6. I am more concerned with...

Meeting a
deadline



Maintaining
the team

7. I place a higher value on...

Action



Communication

How are you ENERGISED?
How are you ORGANISED?

E=

TOTAL

1. In life, I generally prefer to...

Be spontaneous



Follow a plan

2. I prefer to set guidelines that are...

General



Specific

3. I prefer to...

Leave my options open



Settle things now

4. I prefer projects that have...

Variety



Routine

5. I like to...

Play it by ear



Stick to the plan

6. I find routine...

Boring



Restful

7. I accomplish tasks best

By working it out
As I



By following a plan

How are you ORGANISED?

O=

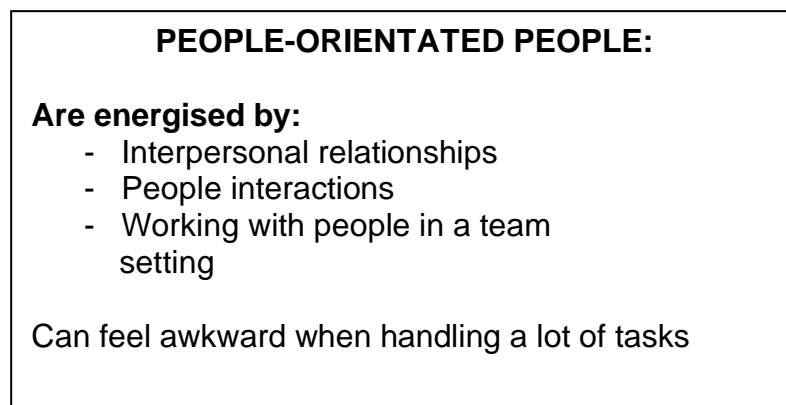
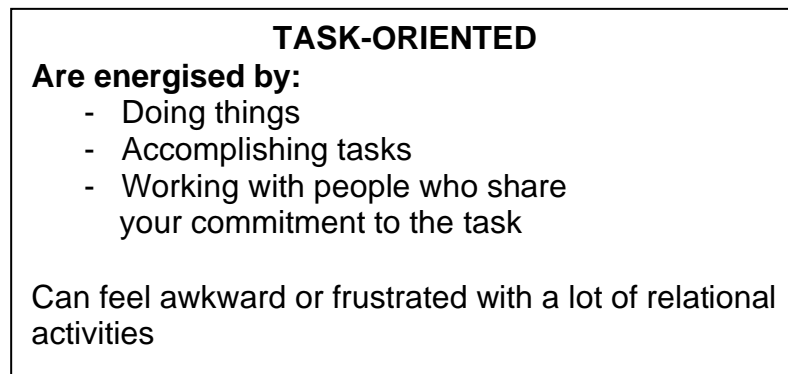
TOTAL

YOUR PERSONAL STYLE INFORMATION

Now that your 'O' score and your 'E' score and plot it on the **graph** that will be provided for you.

1. HOW ARE YOU ENERGISED?

Reflects how you receive and focus emotional energy
Indicates how you prefer to interact with people and tasks



REMEMBER: BOTH value developing relationships and meeting goals and tasks; and neither is better than the other. This assessment just helps you see how you are organised and energised best.

2. HOW ARE YOU ORGANISED?

Your organisation is either structured or unstructured.

If you are structured, you:

- Like calendars, planners, to-do lists, agendas, clear goals and direction and routines.

If you are unstructured, you:

- Are spontaneous, you don't really like routine, you work well in crisis, you think best on the spot and you don't need specific guidelines to work well.

SUNDAY SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

TASK UNSTRUCTURED

You tend to:

- Like general guidelines
- Be versatile
- Get tangible results
- Help wherever needed

Serving opportunities could be:

- Room setup/breakdown
- Café
- Worship
- Kids
- Sound & Media

TASK STRUCTURED

You tend to:

- Get the job done
- Focus on results
- Follow an agenda
- Appreciate clear direction

Serving opportunities could be

- Sound & Media
- Operations team
- Worship
- Kids
- Hospitality
- Cafe

PEOPLE UNSTRUCTURED

You tend to:

- Be very conversational
- Be flexible
- Relate well with others
- Like spontaneous situations

Serving opportunities could be

- Welcome Team
- Worship
- Kids
- Ministry team

PEOPLE STRUCTURED

You tend to:

- Project warmth
- Like defined relationships
- Relate well with others
- Enjoy familiar surroundings

Serving opportunities could be

- Welcome Team
- Worship
- Kids
- Security
- Ministry team
- Info Desk

3. PASSIONS

This section is going to help you find out a bit more about yourself and what God has called you to. We will be looking at your Passions, your Spiritual Gifts and your Personal style. We trust that by the time you have finished this session you will have a clearer view of the call God on your life and the direction that you need to start serving in God's house and Kingdom.

Before we begin, get into groups of 4 with people that you possibly know. This is a time of self-discovery and those that are around you will possibly be able to help you with direction. Here we go:

FINDING MY PASSIONS: WHERE DO I SERVE?

DIRECTIONS:

1. Prayerfully consider your answers to the question
2. Complete the assessment on your own
3. There are no right or wrong responses
4. Don't be concerned about whether you can do it or how it can be done
5. Complete the assessment as if you have no obstacles to fulfilling your heart's desire.

QUESTIONS: (Sections used from Network Course: Willow Creek)

1. If I could snap my fingers and know that I wouldn't fail and that I have the resources and time at my disposal, what would I like to achieve?

2. At the end of my life, I'd love to be able to look back and know that I'd done something about:

3. What would those closest to you say that you were really interested in or passionate about?

4. What would you keep talking about late into the night?

5. What I would most like to do for others is:

6. The people I would most like to help are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Infants | <input type="radio"/> Single parents |
| <input type="radio"/> Teen moms | <input type="radio"/> Widowed |
| <input type="radio"/> Divorced | <input type="radio"/> Young marrieds |
| <input type="radio"/> Career women | <input type="radio"/> Empty nesters |
| <input type="radio"/> Parents | <input type="radio"/> Elderly |
| <input type="radio"/> Unemployed | <input type="radio"/> Widows |
| <input type="radio"/> Orphans | <input type="radio"/> Poor |
| <input type="radio"/> Prisoner | <input type="radio"/> Youth |
| <input type="radio"/> Children | <input type="radio"/> College students |

- o Singles
- o Refugees
- o Homeless

- o Disabled
- o Hospitalised
- o OTHER.....

7. The issues or causes I feel strongly about are:

- o Environment
- o Discipleship
- o Violence
- o Education
- o Economic
- o Health care
- o Abortion
- o Church
- o Child care
- o AIDS
- o Injustice
- o Addictions

- o Reaching the lost
- o Poverty
- o Hunger
- o Homosexuality
- o Politics
- o Racism
- o International
- o Technological
- o Family
- o Literacy
- o OTHER.....

8. Take time and read through what you have written. Is there a common theme that has come up or something that you have realised you love doing or an area where you could make the most significant contribution. Write down below.

9. Based on my answers to the above questions, I think *I have a passion for:*

4. CONCLUSION

QUESTIONS:

1. What have you learnt about yourself from this session today?
2. How can you use this to build the church and impact your sphere of influence and community?
3. What is your next ste

