

## **AUTHORIZED: Destiny DNA** **Romans 12:6-8**

### **Understanding the “Hedgehog Concept”**

Ask yourself these questions:

- What is the one overall concept or unifying vision of my life?
- What is the single organizing idea, a basic principle or concept that unifies and guides everything in my life?

Now ask yourself these questions (“three circles of the hedgehog concept”):

- What are you deeply passionate about?
- What can you be excellent in?
- What can you be fruitful or do well in?

Above material quoted or adapted from: Jim Collins, *Good to Great, chapter five, New York, New York: Harper Collins, 2001.*

### **The Seven “Motivational or Ministry” Gifts of Romans 12**

Use the tools to help understand your destiny DNA:

**Rate yourself:** Do you see this gift in yourself? Rate yourself using a scale such as: one to ten, or definitely, somewhat, probably not, etc.

**Comments:** What would you say about this gift in your life?

**Use it:** If you have this gift, where can you use it?

Word studies and definitions from Connor, Kevin *The Epistle to the Romans*. Portland, Ore.: City Bible Publishing, 1999, pages 357-359; Hunter, Harold F., *Romans*. Newburgh, Ind., Trinity Press, 1990, pages 225-227; and Estes, Marc *What Now: Making Sense of Who You Are and Where You're Going*. Orlando, FL.: Relevant Books, 2006, pages 193-195.

*“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”* Romans 12:6-8

***“...If prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith.”***  
**Romans 12:6**

- Prophecy is one of the nine gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4-11). All believers may prophesy in the realms of edification (“to build up”), exhortation (“to stir up”) and comfort (“to bind up”).

“The gift of prophecy is the divine ability to receive, interpret, and deliver a message from God in a timely manner for edification, repentance, understanding, and/or correction.” Marc Estes

*“But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men.”* 1 Corinthians 14:3

*“Now Judas and Silas, themselves being prophets also, exhorted and strengthened the brethren with many words.”* Acts 15:32

### **The gift of Prophecy:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

***“...Or ministry, let us use it in our ministering.” Romans 12:7***

➤ Ministering is serving others with a heart of love.

“The gift of helps/serving is the divine ability to devote one’s personal talents and abilities toward the lives and ministry of others.”  
Marc Estes

*“At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.”*  
Acts 9:36

**The gift of Ministering:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

***“...He who teaches, in teaching.” Romans 12:7***

- Teaching brings “special insights and interpretive abilities through which one is able to make the Word come alive.”
- “Teaching is the repetition and explanation of authentic apostolic teaching.”  
Wayne Grudem

“The gift of teaching is the divine ability to receive God-given truths from God’s Word and communicate them in a relevant way, resulting in others learning and applying those truths in their personal walk with Christ.”  
Marc Estes

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*  
2 Timothy 2:15

*“These things command and teach.”* 1 Timothy 4:11

*“If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which accords with godliness... From such withdraw yourself.”*  
1 Timothy 6:3,5

### **The gift of Teaching:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

***“...He who exhorts, in exhortation.”*** **Romans 12:8**

➤ Exhortation stirs people up to practical godliness and ministry.

*“The gift of exhortation is the divine ability to support, strengthen, uplift, and counsel those in a special way, resulting in them feeling helped and healed.”*  
Marc Estes

*“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”*  
Hebrews 10:25

*“Strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, ‘We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.’”* Acts 14:22

**The gift of Exhortation:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

***“...He who gives, with liberality.”*** Romans 12:8

- Giving is the grace to give of what we have to the work of the Kingdom.

“The gift of giving is the divine ability to contribute one’s finances and other resources liberally and cheerfully beyond the level expected of all believers for the benefit of the kingdom of God.”  
Marc Estes

*“Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.’”* Mark 12:41-44

## **The gift of Giving:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

***“...He who leads, with diligence.”***

***Romans 12:8***

➤ Grace is given to help people lead.

“The gift of administration [or leadership] is the divine ability to understand and effectively perform tasks that make an organization function properly. This includes the ability to plan and organize certain goals to reach ministry objectives.” Marc Estes

*“Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ‘It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’ And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in*

*Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.”* Acts 6:1-7

### **The gift of Leadership:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

**“...He who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.” Romans 12:8**

- Mercy is “refusing to deal with people as they deserve to be treated.” This must be done with cheerfulness.

“The gift of mercy is the divine ability to see others in need and be moved with empathy and compassion, resulting in meaningful actions that help better the distressing circumstances of the person being ministered to.” Marc Estes

*“And in these days prophets came from Jerusalem to Antioch. Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in the days of Claudius Caesar. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.” Acts 11:27-30*

### **The gift of Mercy:**

Rate yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Use it:

## **YOUR NEXT STEPS:**

**Take a Spiritual gift test at home.** Visit **churchgrowth.org**. On the right-hand side of the home page, click on “Free Spiritual Gift Analysis.” It will take you right to the Analysis. The direct link is:

<http://store.churchgrowth.org/epages/ChurchGrowth.sf>

It is informative and fun to see the gifts God has given you!

**Read Marc Estes’ book:** *What Now: Making Sense of Who You Are and Where You’re Going.* Orlando, FL: Relevant Books 2006.

Experience God’s wonderful Healing Power in your life at **The Healing Room**. We welcome everyone, with every kind of need. We want to pray with you and lift your needs before our Heavenly Father. We are open Mondays from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Room 220, Ward Road Campus, East.

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For more information or questions on any of the above, please contact Ceely Ann Lonergan at 303.424.2121, ext. 92407, or [ceelyann.lonergan@fbc.org](mailto:ceelyann.lonergan@fbc.org)

**Please feel free to come down to the front  
for prayer after service.**

**“...pray for one another...” James 5:16**