

THE MODIFIED HOUTS QUESTIONNAIRE: INSTRUCTIONS

The Modified Houts Questionnaire is an exercise to help give you a handle on what your spiritual gift(s) might be. It was originally designed by Richard F. Houts, a Professor of Christian Education at Ontario Bible College (Eternity, May 1976, pp. 18-21), and later revised by C. Peter Wagner of the Charles E. Fuller Institute of Evangelism and Church Growth.

Here is how to do it:

- STEP 1: Go through the list of 125 statements in the questionnaire on pages 2-6. For each one, mark to what extent the statement is true to your life: MUCH, SOME, LITTLE, or NONE.
- STEP 2: When you are finished, score the questionnaire by means of the Houts Chart (page 7).
- STEP 3: After filling in all your scores on the Houts Chart, refer to pages 8-10 and transfer the names of the spiritual gifts to their corresponding rows on the chart. The order in which the gifts appear is identical to their order on the Houts Chart. You will want to study the gift definitions and Scripture references.

Note: This questionnaire is just a starting place in helping you to discover the spiritual gift(s) that God has given you. Do not make the mistake of considering the results to be final and irrefutable. It may even be that a gift you actually have does not show strongly here. Use this tool as a helpful source of insight, but do not let its results control you.

STEP 1: MODIFIED HOUTS QUESTIONNAIRE

For each statement, mark to what extent it is true to your life: MUCH, SOME, LITTLE, or NONE

		(3) MUCH	(2) SOME	(1) LITTLE	(0) NONE
1	I have proclaimed God's truth in a way that at times irritated the "establishment."				
2	I have enjoyed the responsibility for the spiritual well-being of a group of Christians.				
3	I feel I could enable persons to learn Biblical truths in detail.				
4	I have applied truth effectively in my own life.				
5	I have the ability to discover new truths for myself.				
6	I have verbally encouraged the wavering, the troubled or the discouraged.				
7	I have clearly perceived the difference between truth and error.				
8	I desire to manage money well in order to give liberally to the Lord's work.				
9	I have assisted leaders to relieve them for their essential job.				
10	I have a desire to work with those who have physical or mental problems, to alleviate their suffering.				
11	I have adapted easily in a culture different from mine.				
12	I have led others to a decision for salvation through faith in Christ.				
13	I feel I could provide food and/or lodging graciously to those in need.				
14	I have had confidence that God would keep His promises in spite of circumstantial evidence.				
15	I have a desire to persuade others to move toward achieving Biblical objectives.				
16	I have been able to discern when to delegate important responsibility, and to whom to delegate it.				
17	In the Name of the Lord, I have been used to miraculously change circumstances, and He was glorified.				
18	In the Name of the Lord, I have been used in curing diseases.				
19	I have spoken in tongues.				
20	I have interpreted messages given in tongues.				
21	I have felt a sense of authority in relating to other Christians.				
22	I am single and enjoy it.				
23	I have had a sense of recognizing prayer needs before others.				
24	I feel I could face imprisonment, or even death, for my faith with confidence.				

		(3) MUCH	(2) SOME	(1) LITTLE	(0) NONE
25	I would enjoy being called upon to do special jobs around the church.				
26	Through God, I can reveal what will happen in the future.				
27	I have enjoyed relating to the same group of people over a long period of time, in their successes and their failures.				
28	I feel I could explain clearly the New Testament teaching about the health and ministry of the Body of Christ.				
29	I can intuitively arrive at solutions to complicated problems.				
30	I have had insights of truth that brought conviction to other Christians.				
31	I feel I could be an instrument for dislodging the complacent and redirecting the wayward to face spiritual reality.				
32	I have judged well between good and evil.				
33	I have given things or money cheerfully for the Lord's work.				
34	I have sensed the need to help others become more effective in their ministries.				
35	I have felt unusual compassion for those with physical or spiritual needs.				
36	I feel I could learn another language well in order to minister to those in a different culture.				
37	I have shared joyfully how Christ has brought me to Himself in a way that is meaningful to non-believers.				
38	I have provided a gracious haven for guests without the feeling of family interruption.				
39	I have received from God an unusual assurance that He will do the impossible to fulfill a special work.				
40	I know where I am going, and I have seen other Christians follow me.				
41	I can organize ideas, people, resources and time for more effective ministry.				
42	In the Name of the Lord, I have cast out demons.				
43	In the Name of the Lord, I have healed the emotionally disturbed.				
44	I have spoken an immediate message from God to His people in a language I have never learned.				
45	I have interpreted tongues with the result that the body of Christ was edified, exhorted or comforted.				
46	I feel I could proclaim the gospel in a new area and see new groups of Christians formed.				
47	I am single and feel indifferent toward being married.				
48	I take prayer requests more seriously than other Christians seem to.				
49	I do not feel fear about suffering physical persecution for my faith.				
50	I have been able to effectively take care of odd jobs around the church.				

		(3) MUCH	(2) SOME	(1) LITTLE	(0) NONE
51	I have communicated to others timely and urgent messages that I believe came directly from God.				
52	I tend to know intimately those I serve and guide, and to be known intimately by them.				
53	I can devote a great amount of time to learning new Biblical truths to communicate to others.				
54	I have chosen from several Biblical alternatives an option that usually worked.				
55	I feel I can acquire and master new facts and principles of Bible truth.				
56	I have urged others to seek a Biblical solution to their affliction or suffering.				
57	I tend to look beneath the surface and examine people's motives.				
58	I feel deeply moved when confronted with urgent financial needs in God's work.				
59	I have enjoyed doing routine tasks that led to more effective ministry by others.				
60	I would enjoy visiting in hospitals and/or retirement homes and would do fine in such a ministry.				
61	I have been able to relate well to Christians in a different race, language or culture.				
62	I have explained clearly that Jesus is the Savior and have seen positive effects on the listeners.				
63	I have a knack for making strangers feel at home.				
64	I can trust in the power and presence of God for the impossible.				
65	I would enjoy leading, inspiring and motivating others to involve themselves in the lord's work.				
66	I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.				
67	God has intervened many times to do impossible things through my life.				
68	In the Name of the Lord, I have successfully treated those who were spiritually sick.				
69	I can speak to God in a language I have never learned.				
70	I have prayed that I might interpret if someone begins speaking in tongues.				
71	Other Christians have been willing to do what I say, without asking many questions.				
72	I am glad I have more time to serve the Lord because I am single.				
73	Prayer has been one of my favorite spiritual exercises.				
74	I feel confident that dying for my faith would not be the worst thing that could happen to me.				
75	I feel satisfaction in performing routine tasks for God's glory.				
76	I have a desire to speak direct messages from God that edify, exhort or comfort others.				

		(3) MUCH	(2) SOME	(1) LITTLE	(0) NONE
77	I have helped needy Christians by guiding them to relevant portions of the Bible and praying with them.				
78	I feel I could communicate Biblical truths to others and see resulting changes in knowledge, attitudes, values or conduct.				
79	I have been able to perceive and apply Biblical truth to the specific needs of the Body of Christ.				
80	I have studied and read a great deal to learn Biblical truths.				
81	I have a desire to effectively counsel the perplexed, the guilty or the addicted.				
82	I have accurately recognized whether a teaching is from God, from Satan or from human origin.				
83	I am so confident that God will meet my needs that I give to Him sacrificially and consistently.				
84	I am happy when others get credit for what I do.				
85	I would enjoy taking shut-ins out for a drive or assisting them in other practical ways.				
86	I feel I could enjoy living in a foreign country.				
87	I have a desire to speak messages that are primarily the gospel of salvation.				
88	I have a genuine graciousness toward and appreciation for the guests who come to my home.				
89	I have felt sure I knew God's specific will for the future growth of His work, even when others have not been so sure.				
90	I have influenced others to accomplish a particular task or Biblical purpose.				
91	I am able to give directions to others and make decisions for them, rather than trying to persuade them to my way of thinking.				
92	I have been an instrument for God's supernatural change in lives and events.				
93	I have prayed for others so that healing occurred.				
94	When I give a public message in tongues, I expect it to be interpreted.				
95	I have interpreted tongues in a way that seemed to bless others.				
96	I have a desire to be sent out by a church to start new churches.				
97	I am single, but have little difficulty controlling my sexual desires.				
98	God has consistently answered my prayers in tangible ways.				
99	I feel that terrorist threats of death would not shake my faith.				
100	I have been able to identify what needs to be done around the church and volunteer to help.				

		(3) MUCH	(2) SOME	(1) LITTLE	(0) NONE
101	I have given messages of warning, judgment or direction from the Lord.				
102	I feel I can restore persons who have wandered away from their Christian community.				
103	I have trained Christians to be more obedient disciples of Christ.				
104	I have felt an unusual presence of God and personal confidence when important decisions needed to be made.				
105	I have been able to distinguish important and key facts of Scripture.				
106	I have comforted Christians in their afflictions or sufferings in such a way that they felt helped or healed.				
107	I can see through a phony before his phoniness is clearly evident to other people.				
108	I have been willing to maintain a lower standard of living in order to benefit God's work.				
109	I would be happy to be a teacher's aide in a Bible class.				
110	I would enjoy offering cheerful conversation to a lonely, shut-in person or someone in prison.				
111	More than most, I have had a strong desire to see people in other countries won to the Lord.				
112	I have a burden to seek out unbelievers in order to win them to Christ.				
113	I have desired to make my home available to those in the Lord's service.				
114	I can trust in the reliability of God when all else looks dim.				
115	Others have followed me because I have had some expert knowledge that contributed to the edification of the church.				
116	I have enjoyed bearing the responsibility for the success of a group or organization.				
117	In the Name of the Lord, I have been able to recover sight to the blind.				
118	I have prayed successfully for others for restoration of health apart from natural means.				
119	When I speak in tongues, I believe it is edifying to the Lord's Body.				
120	I have interpreted tongues in such a way that the message appeared to be directly from God.				
121	I have received a commission from Christians to exercise God-given authority among believers and non-believers.				
122	I can really identify with Paul's desire for others to be single as he was.				
123	I desire to faithfully pray for others in ministry, since I realize that their effectiveness relies upon it.				
124	I can identify with persecuted Christians who will not recant to avoid imprisonment or death.				
125	I respond cheerfully when asked to do tasks, even if they seem menial.				

STEP 2: MODIFIED HOUTS CHART

In the grid below, enter the numerical value of each of your responses next to the number of the corresponding statements on pages 2-7: MUCH = 3 SOME = 2 LITTLE = 1 NONE = 0

Then, add up the five numbers that you have recorded in each row and place the sum in the "TOTAL" column.

ROWS	VALUE OF ANSWERS					TOTAL	GIFTS (See pages 10-13)
A	1	26	51	76	101		PROPHECY
B	2	27	52	77	102		PASTOR
C	3	28	53	78	103		TEACHING
D	4	29	54	79	104		WISDOM
E	5	30	55	80	105		KNOWLEDGE
F	6	31	56	81	106		EXHORTATION
G	7	32	57	82	107		DISCERNING OF SPIRITS
H	8	33	58	83	108		GIVING
I	9	34	59	84	109		HELPS
J	10	35	60	85	110		MERCY
K	11	36	61	86	111		MISSIONARY
L	12	37	62	87	112		EVANGELIST
M	13	38	63	88	113		HOSPITALITY
N	14	39	64	89	114		FAITH
O	15	40	65	90	115		LEADERSHIP
P	16	41	66	91	116		ADMINISTRATION
Q	17	42	67	92	117		MIRACLES
R	18	43	68	93	118		HEALING
S	19	44	69	94	119		TONGUES
T	20	45	70	95	120		INTERPRETATION
U	21	46	71	96	121		APOSTLE
V	22	47	72	97	122		CELIBACY
W	23	48	73	98	123		INTERCESSION
X	24	49	74	99	124		MARTYRDOM
Y	25	50	75	100	125		SERVICE

NOTE: The capital Letters before the gift definitions on the following pages corresponds with Rows A-Y.

STEP 3: REVIEW OF GIFT DEFINITIONS AND SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

The following four pages (9-12) contain suggested definitions of the spiritual gifts. While not meant to be dogmatic or final, these definitions and supporting scriptures do correspond to characteristics of the gifts as expressed in the MODIFIED HOUTS QUESTIONNAIRE.

ROWS	GIFT DEFINITIONS	SCRIPTURES
A	<u>PROPHECY</u> : The gift of prophecy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely anointed utterance.	1 Corinthians 12:10, 28 Ephesians 4:11-14 Romans 12:6 Luke 7:26 Acts 15:32 Acts 21:9-11
B	<u>PASTOR</u> : The gift of pastor is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to assume a long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers.	Ephesians 4:11-14 1 Timothy 3:1-7 John 10:1-18 1 Peter 5:1-3
C	<u>TEACHING</u> : The gift of teaching is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the Body and its members in such a way that others will listen.	1 Corinthians 12:28 Ephesians 4:11-14 Romans 12:7 Acts 18:25-28 Acts 20:20-21
D	<u>WISDOM</u> : The gift of wisdom is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to know the mind of the Holy Spirit in such a way as best to receive insight into how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the Body of Christ.	1 Corinthians 2:1-13 1 Corinthians 12:8 Acts 6:3 James 1:5-6 2 Peter 3:15
E	<u>KNOWLEDGE</u> : The gift of knowledge is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to discover, accumulate, analyze and clarify information and ideas which are pertinent to the growth and well-being of the Body.	1 Corinthians 2:14 1 Corinthians 12:8 Acts 5:1-11 Colossians 2:2-3 2 Corinthians 11:6
F	<u>EXHORTATION</u> : The gift of exhortation is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement and counsel to other members of the Body in such a way that they feel helped and healed.	Romans 12:8 1 Timothy 4:13 Hebrews 10:25 Acts 14:22
G	<u>DISCERNING OF SPIRITS</u> : The gift of discerning of spirits is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is, in reality, divine, human or satanic.	1 Corinthians 12:10 Acts 5:1-11 Acts 16:16-18 1 John 4:1-6 Matthew 16:21-23
H	<u>GIVING</u> : The gift of giving is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to contribute their material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness.	Romans 12:8 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 2 Corinthians 9:2-8 Mark 12:41-44
I	<u>HELPS</u> : The gift of helps is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to invest in the talents they have in the life and ministry of other members of the Body, thus enabling those others to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts.	1 Corinthians 12:28 Romans 16:1-2 Acts 9:36 Luke 8:2-3 Mark 15:40-41

J	<u>MERCY</u> : The gift of mercy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals (both Christian and non-Christian) who suffer distressing physical, mental or emotional problems, and to translate that compassion into cheerfully-done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering.	Romans 12:8 Mark 9:41 Acts 16:33-34 Luke 10:33-35 Matthew 20:29-34 Matthew 25:34-40 Acts 11:28-30
K	<u>MISSIONARY</u> : The gift of missionary is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to minister whatever other spiritual gifts they have in a second culture.	1 Corinthians 9:19-23 Acts 8:4 Acts 13:2-3 Acts 22:21 Romans 10:15
L	<u>EVANGELIST</u> : The gift of evangelist is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to share the gospel with unbelievers in such a way that men and women become Jesus' disciples and responsible members of the Body of Christ.	Ephesians 4:11-14 2 Timothy 4:5 Acts 8:5-6 Acts 8:26-40 Acts 14:21 Acts 21:8
M	<u>HOSPITALITY</u> : The gift of hospitality is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to provide an open house and a warm welcome to those in need of food and lodging.	1 Peter 4:9 Romans 12:9-13 Romans 16:23 Acts 16:14-15 Hebrews 13:1-2
N	<u>FAITH</u> : The gift of faith is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for His work.	1 Corinthians 12:9 Acts 11:22-24 Acts 27:21-25 Hebrews 11 Romans 4:18-21
O	<u>LEADERSHIP</u> : The gift of leadership is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate these goals to others in such a way that they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God.	1 Timothy 5:17 Acts 7:10 Acts 15:7-11 Romans 12:8 Hebrews 13:17 Luke 9:51
P	<u>ADMINISTRATION</u> : The gift of administration is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to understand clearly the immediate and long-range goals of a particular unit of the Body of Christ and to devise and execute effective plans for the accomplishment of those goals.	1 Corinthians 12:28 Acts 6:1-7 Acts 27:11 Luke 14:28-30
Q	<u>MIRACLES</u> : The gift of miracles is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to perform powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature.	1 Corinthians 12:10, 28 Acts 9:36-42 Acts 9:11-20 Acts 20:7-12 Romans 15: 18-19 2 Corinthians 12:12
R	<u>HEALING</u> : The gift of healing is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to cure illness and restore health apart from the use of natural means.	1 Corinthians 12:9, 28 Acts 3:1-10 Acts 5:12-16 Acts 9:32-35 Acts 28:7-10

S	TONGUES: The gift of tongues is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ (a) to speak to God in a language they have never learned and/or (b) to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely-anointed utterance in a language they have never learned.	1 Corinthians 12:10, 28 1 Corinthians 14:13-19 Acts 2:1-13 Acts 10:44-46 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 16:17
T	INTERPRETATION: The gift of interpretation is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to make known in the vernacular the message of one who speaks in tongues.	1 Corinthians 12:10, 30 1 Corinthians 14:13 1 Corinthians 14:26-28
U	APOSTLE: The gift of apostle is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to assume and exercise general leadership over a number of churches with an extraordinary authority in spiritual matters which is spontaneously recognized and appreciated by those churches.	1 Corinthians 12:28 2 Corinthians 12:12 Ephesians 4:11-14 Ephesians 3:1-9 Acts 15:1-2 Galatians 2:7-10
V	CELIBACY: The gift of celibacy is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to remain single and enjoy it; to be unmarried and not suffer undue sexual temptations.	1 Corinthians 7:7-8 Matthew 19:10-12
W	INTERCESSION: The gift of intercession is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and see frequent and specific answers to their prayers, to a degree much greater than that which is expected of the average Christian.	James 5:14-16 1 Timothy 2:1-2 Colossians 1:9-12 Colossians 4:12-13 Acts 12:12 Luke 22:41-44
X	MARTYRDOM: The gift of martyrdom is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to undergo suffering for the faith, even to the point of death, while consistently displaying a joyous and victorious attitude which brings glory to God.	1 Corinthians 13:3 Acts 5:27-41 Acts 7:54-60 Acts 12:1-5 2 Corinthians 11:21-30 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
Y	SERVICE: The gift of service is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired results.	2 Timothy 1:16-18 Romans 12:7 Acts 6:1-7 Titus 3:14 Galatians 6:2, 10

For a more complete description of these, you may want to read the book by C. Peter Wagner; Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow. It is available through the Charles E. Fuller Institute of Evangelism and Church Growth.