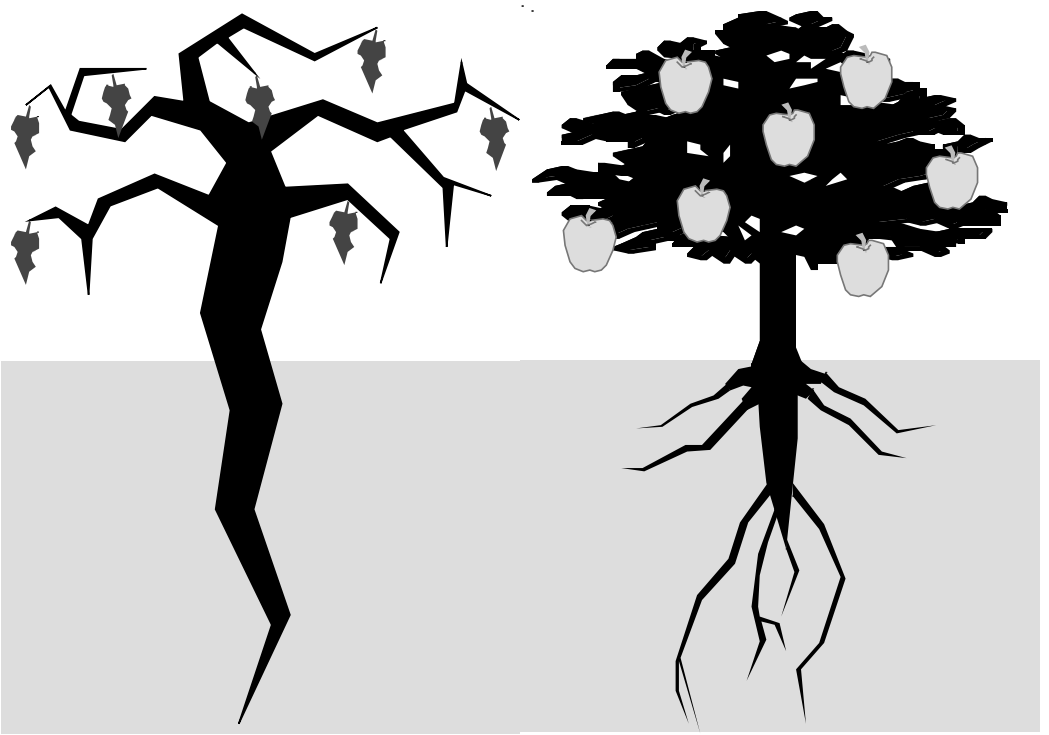


THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

THE SEVEN HOLIES

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

SCENARIOS FOR DISCOVERY

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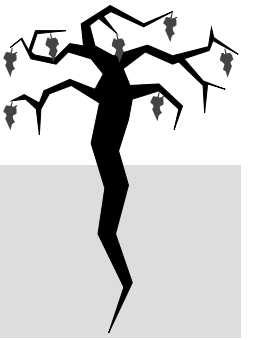
SEVEN DEADLY SINS
INTRODUCTION

Pope Gregory the Great, at the end of the sixth century, divided all sins under seven heads. He said that every sin that a man commits can be classified by seven words. He named the sins: pride, anger, envy, impurity (lust), gluttony, sloth, and greed. They have been called down through the centuries, "the Seven Deadly Sins." These sins are nowhere collectively mentioned in a single passage in the Bible, and yet they are all condemned separately in many places. Thomas Aquinas and most of the great theologians have agreed with Pope Gregory, and these seven deadly sins have become a recognized part of moral theology.

--Billy Graham, Freedom from the 7 Deadly Sins

Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin...

James 1:15



The purpose of this section is to help you isolate and identify a symptomatic fruit-level sin in your life; i.e., a predominant sin.

What follows are seven graphic descriptions of the Seven Deadly Sins. Each sin is first *defined* and then a list of detailed *manifestations* are given. Read carefully over each "sin" and make note of the manifestations that you feel describe a consistent, reoccurring pattern or habit in your life.

After going over each "sin" in this manner, go back over those specific manifestations that you highlighted while reflecting on the questions raised on page 31 of the Life Change Tool. Select one sin as your predominant sin.

FAQ's

There are several predominant sins in my life at present. Which is my predominant sin?
Often times sin comes in clusters. For example, sloth and lust have been referred to as "sister" sins because they feed off of each other. The reason for identifying a predominant sin is primarily to help you develop a sensitivity to sin's movement in your life. For this exercise go with the sin that receives the most highlight marks.

Some of the manifestations of a particular sin describe me to a "T" while other manifestations (under the same sin) do not. Why?
A particular Deadly Sin can manifest itself in different ways in different people for a variety of complex reasons.

If pride is at the root of all the Deadly Sins why is it listed as one of them?
All the Deadlies are expressions of pride under different guises. Pride, when it is unadorned, however, can express itself directly through our behavior and attitudes simply as itself.

Isn't it dangerous to be thinking about what our sins are?
Yes, but it's more dangerous to be ignorant of them. It is the wicked man who is unable to detect his sin (Psa. 36:1-2) Also, check out David's prayer in Psalm 139:23, 24.

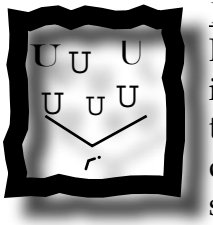
Be sure to saturate your time in this exercise with prayer.

The following descriptions and manifestations of the Seven Deadlies were written by Kaye Briscoe King and are used by permission.

ENVY

Envy is the consuming desire to have everybody else as unsuccessful as you are.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Envy is being dissatisfied with our lives, talents and fits and focusing on the circumstances of another's life. Jealousy. Envy begrudges someone their status, material possessions or the relationships and good will that they have earned from others in the community.

MANIFESTATIONS

Actively trying to dissuade others from admiring or accepting anyone who is the focus of our envy or setting up an unfair rivalry or competition with that person.

Being happy and satisfied when bad fortune befalls another.

Belittling and planting seeds of doubt about another's character.

Gossiping.

Devising ways of destroying someone, sometimes with a long range plan.

Being dissatisfied with our physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual selves.

Being unwilling to be content with our station or lot in life.

A person can become our flash point for an obsession.

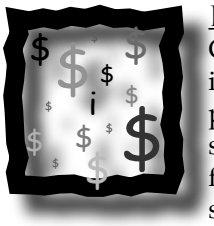
We encourage criticism and antagonism against the person through sarcasm, teasing or cutting him/her down.

Envy can be masked as contempt for a person's culture, position and talents or for someone who is in authority over us.

GREED

Avarice, greed, concupiscence, and so forth are all based on the mathematical truism that the more you get, the more you have. The remark of Jesus that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 2:35) is based on the human truth that the more you give away in love, the more you are. It is not just for the sake of other people that Jesus tells us to give rather than get,
but for our own sakes too.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Greed is the desire for inordinate amounts of personal possessions or status. Greed uses others for our personal gain in spite of any harm that this manipulation may cause them.

MANIFESTATIONS

Putting possessions in place of God

Being ambitious and disdaining morality, the law or the rights of others

Pursuing status, material possessions, reputation or power

Believing that all's fair in competition and, thus, becoming ruthless and unjust

Being too possessive or protective of our children, spouse or friends

Being self-centered

Refusing to set boundaries

Avoiding conflict by not correcting or disciplining children for fear they will not love us

Deliberately engaging others in illegal or unethical activities
Manipulating others (which is control) to do our will through threat of physical violence, withdrawal of affection, cajoling or whining

Letting control and power be motivating forces in our lives

Being too eager to give advice or possess authority

Attempting to have others in debt to us so we can exert power

Using flattery, gifts, favoritism or even covert bribery to win support, affection or authority

Backing down from personal standards or refusing to be involved with or defend people of lesser means or position

Fearing being stigmatized by leaders or the wealthy

Being dishonest by stealing or fencing stolen goods, cheating on exams, falsifying records or evading taxes

Being narcissistic

Believing we are entitled to something because of who we are

Being wasteful of possessions, talent or natural resources

Living beyond our income in order to impress others or sustain our present standard of living

Embezzling

Gambling in such a way that gambling controls us

Intriguing or conspiring

Borrowing, sponging, weaseling, or playing on the good will of others in order not to use our own money, time, or talent

Being stingy or being indifferent to the homeless and hungry

Failing to teamwork in our workplace or at home

LUST

Lust is the craving for salt of a person who is dying of thirst.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

We lust when we seek another god or material satisfaction to fill the emptiness and hunger for intimacy and control in our lives. Lust is excessive, driving desire for personal sexual gratification, disregarding God's intended purpose for sexuality, in order to fulfill our own inordinate needs.

MANIFESTATIONS

Misusing sex for personal gratification

Violating the Church's marriage laws, such as those concerning adultery

Lack of consideration for one's partner in the marital relationship

Indulging sexually outside of marriage in thought, word or deed, alone or with others

Acting or fantasizing that leads to sexual perversion or addiction

Frequenting adult movie houses or reading sexual magazines

Engaging in voyeurism or indecent exposure

Molesting children

Raping

Engaging in prostitution or other promiscuous activities

Sodomizing

Stimulating sexual desires in others

Being immodest with intent to seduce

Condemning sex as evil in itself

Repressing sex

Refusing to seek help or adequate instruction for problems concerning sex

Prudery

Deliberately inflicting pain (whether mental, sexual, or emotional) on others

Tormenting animals

Holding someone against their will

Teasing

Denying that one's own sexuality is a gift from God

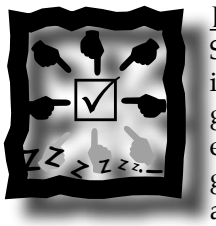
Being unwilling to inform our own children about sex

SLOTH

Sloth is not to be confused with laziness. Lazy people, people who sit around and watch the grass grow, may be people at peace. Their sun-drenched, bumblebee dreaming may be the prelude to action or itself an act well worth the acting.

Slothful people, on the other hand, may be very busy people. They are people who go through the motions, who fly on automatic pilot. Like somebody with a bad head cold, they have mostly lost their sense of taste and smell. They know something's wrong with them, but not wrong enough to do anything about. Other people come and go, but through glazed eyes they hardly notice them. They are letting things run their course. They are getting through their lives.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Sloth is the act of refusing to use our natural gifts and talents for emotional and spiritual growth. It is laziness or an unwillingness to perform our duties, work and studies or pay attention to our needs and those of others.

MANIFESTATIONS

Neglecting our family, such as being unwilling to follow through on relationships, courtesies and concern for family members, and avoiding working through conflict

Procrastinating when we do not find immediate payoffs

Living in a dream world

Avoid social obligations or becoming busy with irrelevant tasks in order to avoid important commitments

Spending an inordinate amount of time on rest recreation, television, reading, etc.

Always looking for easy answers and short cuts to solutions

Putting pleasure above all else

Not assuming responsibility for our work by wasting time or being passive, such as by producing inadequate work, not meeting deadlines or leaving our tasks for others to complete

Avoiding spiritual growth

Ignoring the needs and concerns of our employees

Not treating people of lesser means with dignity and being unwilling to go out of our way to accommodate those in need

Lacking concern for injustice done to others

Being unwilling to undergo hardships without complaining

Giving insufficient attention to the parenting and spiritual practices of our families

Being unwilling to face and resolve conflicts with family and friends

Failing to fulfill spiritual and religious obligations, such as attending church regularly

GLUTTONY

A glutton is one who raids the icebox for a cure for spiritual malnutrition.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Gluttony seeks happiness, pleasure and security in the obsessive use of drink, drugs, sex, smoking, work or any activity that is harmful to ourselves or others.

MANIFESTATIONS

Being self indulgent in any pleasure such as food, drink, drugs or sex that may lead to an addiction or, at the minimum, interfere with our social or vocational abilities

Being a perfectionist or demanding unrealistically high standards

Exaggerating a sense of self importance, or being preoccupied with fantasies involving power, wealth and reputation

Acting as if we are superior to others

Neglecting our health through lack or rest, recreation, exercise, wholesome diet or balanced life style or refusing to care for our teeth, any ailments of dysfunctions of our body

Refusing to seek counseling and to face our participation in the addictive or dependency processes.

Manipulating in order to sustain our addiction.

Becoming rigid, intolerant and condemning others' pleasures as evil in an attempt to minimize or squelch our own attachment.

Being a religious fanatic about sex in order to help ourselves detach from inactive addiction that we have just under the service

Denying the seriousness of our attachments and how the object of these affections consume a great deal of our time

Substituting addictions for reality in order to block out pain, suffering and our circumstances

Allowing them to become our false gods while turning our back on God

Being unwilling to accept help because of our love and loyalty to our attachment

Neglecting our spiritual walk

Having a tendency to become manic and unrealistic

Lacking self-discipline

Looking for a short cut to success in order to get something for nothing

Having an over-attachment to grief because of past failures and feelings of unworthiness

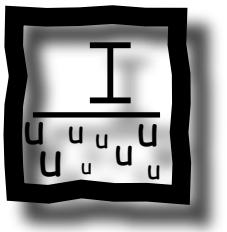
Refusing to use things of the world in a balanced way

Gluttony changes into an addiction when the attachment and any ensuing illnesses become a means of escape from intimacy and the responsibilities of our relationships with God, self and others.

Pride

Self-love or pride is a sin when, instead of leading you to share with others the self you love, it leads you to keep your self in perpetual safe-deposit. You not only don't accrue any interest that way, but become less and less interesting every day.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Pride occurs when I push God aside, become the center of my own universe and act as if the world revolves me and is under my control. It is a rebellion against God's sovereignty.

MANIFESTATIONS

Depending on myself rather than on God

Expecting others to treat me as if I am a god

Being self absorbed and leaving no time for God

Refusing: to love and trust God; to accept forgiveness from others, ourselves or God, because we judge ourselves as not perfect (as we should since we are taking God's place; to avoid temptation

Pitying ourselves because we think our sins make us less respectable

Attempting to control or predict the future by using spiritualism, astrology, fortune telling, black magic or superstition

Not practicing gratitude for others' gifts, knowledge or good works

Being territorial about our status

Acting as if we were better, further advanced or possess virtues that others lack

Practicing hypocrisy (judging others harshly for faults that we ourselves possess)

Remaining in denial or refusing to recognize our sins by minimizing or rationalizing "Boys will be Boys," or "That is just natural for a woman to do" or "That is the way teens normally act."

Being too sensitive and refusing to see that we can grow from constructive criticism

Refusing to receive guidance from our community

Refusing to take responsibility for wrong doing or to take responsibility for what we have done

Being unwilling to make amends and restitution

Lying or deceiving to escape discipline

Letting someone else take the blame because they are dispensable and we are not (only we are important to the company or the cause)

Exaggerating; interrupting; talking too much or in hyperbole

Taking center stage in an attempt to claim wisdom or abilities that we do not possess

Behaving ostentatiously in order to focus attention on ourselves

Having inordinate shyness because we feel we are not perfect

Being performance driven

Refusing to admit wrong or apologize in order not to lose face and to suffer presumed damage to our status in the community

Unwilling to accept less than excellence in food, drink, lodging or another's performance

Being aggravated by the irritating habits of others

Being a bigot and saying our customs, race, religion, dress and culture are superior to those of others

Overspending of time and money or how we present ourselves, our home or office to others to impress them

Showing superiority by thinking that I should not have to do what others do, such as work, chores, etc.

Taking credit for my abilities and accomplishments rather than giving God or others credit for thoughts, insights, etc.

Having to be the only one who has a credible idea or plan

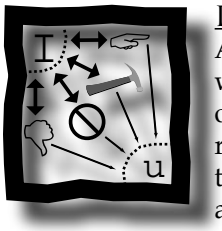
Reinforcing my superiority by being overbearing, argumentative and opinionated

Being legends in our own minds

ANGER

Of the Seven Deadly Sins, anger is possibly the most fun. To lick your wounds, to smack your lips over grievances long past, to roll over you tongue the prospect of bitter confrontations still to come, to savor to the last toothsome morsel both the pain you are given and the pain your are giving back—in many ways it is a feast fit for a king. The chief drawback is that what you are wolfing down is yourself. The skeleton at the feast is you.

Frederick Buechner, Wishful Thinking



DEFINITION

Anger becomes a sin when it takes the form of rebellion, revenge, or retaliation; causes harm to self or others; or sets an obstacle in the way of our relationship with God.

MANIFESTATIONS

Hating God

Refusing to allow Him in our lives

Turning our backs on a personal relationship with Him

Resenting and refusing to use our talents and girts or pursue the mission God has given us

Blaming others (God, parents, spouse) and accepting responsibility for the negative conditions that we have brought on ourselves and the inner decisions we have made that have contributed to our unhappiness

Being cynical

Purposely trying to ruin someone's reputation

Gossiping

Using profanity, grumbling or attacking someone verbally (such as quarreling, nagging, rudeness or raging) or physically (such as hitting, torture or murder)

Harsh or excessive punishment of children or others over whom we have authority

Forcing our will on others

Seeking revenge and retaliation

Turning our anger against ourselves, such as through self mutilation, over eating, bulimia, anorexia, or pushing ourselves to overwork or to be perfect

Not taking care or our bodies, such as not sleeping or eating properly or getting enough exercise

Refusing to let anger emerge and thus cause depression

Allowing anger to manifest itself in disease and conditions harmful to the body

Self-pity

Anger is out of order when we refuse to forgive and are unwilling to let go of bitterness or love another as God does. We refuse to love the unlovable or our enemies. Anger in the form of passive aggressive behavior is demonstrated when we ostracize another person, spoil another's pleasure (by snubbing or being moody or uncooperative) or physically or emotionally sabotage someone.

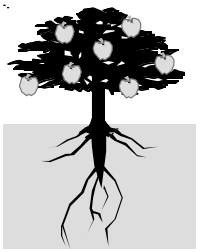
THE HOLY SEVEN
FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT
INTRODUCTION

We spend so much time in cirsis management, putting out the daily fires that erupt that it is a temptation to focus only on those parts of our character that are defective or damaged. Our ancestors passed on many good, outstanding traits. We will find capable leaders, talented and creative, alongside the family "black sheep." People of outstanding virtue will dot our family tree. Upon careful investigation, you will find patternsof the Virtues and loving stories handed down abouttheir character and the ways they provided backbone for the family in the face of adversities.

Each of the Virtues represent a facet of Jesus' character. If you will study the Scriptures, you will discover that Christ personifies the Fruit of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self Control. These Fruit are ours if we will just embrace them and be willing to give up our destructive habits. We may all agree that is exactly what we should and want to do, but actually going through the pain of detaching from old ways and learning new ones is another matter. It means changing our life. The way is narrow and few go to the trouble it takes to travel the path, but we all have the opportunity.

I want to encourage you to take the narrow way. We are give theopportunity to live gree from anxiety, discontentment and anger. We can have a life that is peaceful despite the crises around us. Actively developing the Virtues gives us a helathy, strong and loving life style.

Use this exercise in conjunction with the one on the Seven Deadlies. It will not only give you a balanced approach to your growth, but also it will allow the Holy Spirit to enlighten you as you progress on the Journey.



THE SEVEN HOLIES
INTRODUCTION

The Holy Seven are the Virtues that fashion us into the likeness of Christ. Christ personifies the perfection of each Virtue. The Virtues alleviate the strangleshold of the opposing sin. If I am angry and spend my time figuring how I can get back at someone, I am soncumed by thoughts of them. They then control my day. Love, or Charity, is the virtue that counteracts the effects of hatred, malice and Anger. Jesus calls me to love my enemy, not necessarily make him my best friend. I will forgive, let go and make a new inner decision that will eliminate my antagonist's control over me.

The Virtues, like the Seven Deadlies, have been passed on to us from our past generations, by our environment, genetics and imprinting. If you will look at your family tree, you will find a pattern of Virtues emerging. There are like gifts to you. They may cluster together to give you the attributes of a just and kind leader, a generous and loving parent, or a diligent, efficient and effective worker.

When you are at a family gathering, you hear statements like, "Aunt Eve can always be counted on to be straight with you, ready to listen, be practical and loving. Ken takes after his uncle Sam: content, talented, full of fun and is real aware of who he is and who he is not!"

The Virtues are like stepping stones on the Journey. As we uncover and begin to rid ourselves of sins, we make a deliberate decision to replace them with a Virtue. This is a gradual process because a Virtue can only replace as much of the sin as we are willing to remove. For example, I can only love as much as I am willing to let go of my animosity for someone.

I have heard people say, "I only hate one person. I love everyone else." That person has projected his anger and ill will on one person whom he believes deserves it. Love is inhibited in its effect on the soul and anger still has the upper hand. As we travel along the Journey, we detach from our desire to own "things" and control people. Detachment nourishes the growth of the Virtues. As the man lets go of his hatred toward that one person in his life, God's love grows in him so that he can accept the person and not their actions.

We can make inner decisions that counter our past destructive ones. If I am lazy and procrastinate in getting my work done, I can pray earnestly for the virtue of Diligence. I then look for old inner decisions that have caused me to embrace the vices. I may have made the

inner decision as a youth that no matter what I do, it will never be good enough. Why try? Counseling can help me with these feelings and the problems that they have caused. I can then form new inner decisions of self worth and esteem and set reasonable objectives in order to gradually eliminate the habits created by my procrastination.

We encounter the Seven Deadlies as well as the Virtues at different stages in our Journey. As goal oriented people, we would like to think that once we have processed the effect of a particular sin, we no longer have to think about it. As we heal in levels, we also become purified in levels. At later stages on the Journey you will uncover more subtle manifestations of the sin as well as their opposing virtues. With each new level we become more like the image of Christ and the life that He wants us to live.

It is my hope that the Virtues and the list of their manifestations will help you to see what a normal life can be like. No virtue is out of our reach. We may be plagued by small habits that have formed around our predominant sin, be we can live free from its control. The benefit of living with the Virtues far overcomes the time and patience that it takes to embrace them.

This introduction and the descriptions of the Seven Holies that follow were written by
Kaye Briscoe King and are used by permission.

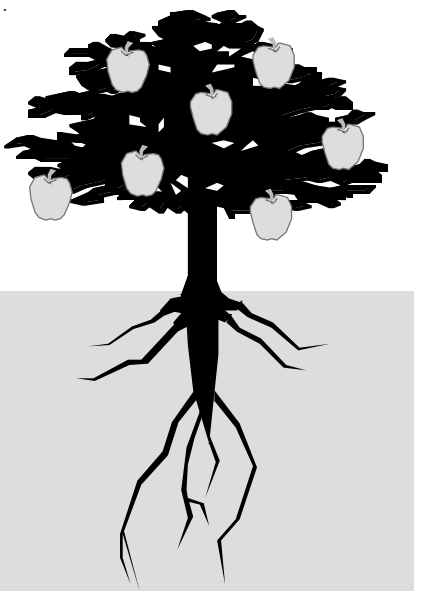
FAQ's

What is the difference between the Virtues and the Fruit of the Spirit?

The Virtues are moral character traits that were passed down to us by "common grace" through our parents which , if you go back far enough, can be traced back to that first twosome in Eden. They are part of what it means to be human; i.e., created in the image of God. Both Christians and non-Christians possess the Virtues to differing degrees, and it isn't surprising to find an enlightened pagan here and there who exhibits humility, love, contentment, generosity, temperance, diligence and purity at a higher level of integrity than the believer in the Way. The Fruit of the Spirit, however, comes to us by "special grace" through the Holy Spirit when we become children of promise in the Son. The Fruit is "simply the life of Christ lived out in a Christian" (Bible Knowledge Commentary: New Testament, p. 608). In a dynamic and complex interconnected dance of grace, both the Virtues and the Fruit of the Spirit bolster each other up within the obedient believer, producing Christlikeness in their wake.

Why are the Seven Deadlies more interesting than the Virtues?

The chief power of sin is to make evil look good and the good something to yawn about. No one chooses to do evil because they think it'll make life less exciting, less interesting, less boring, et al. And no one avoids the good because they believe in doing so they'll be missing out on the time of their lives.



HUMILITY

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

Phil. 2:3

DEFINITION

Humility occurs when I am in touch with who I truly am. I do not consider myself better or worse that I actually am. God is in His rightful place as my center and first priority. I understand that it is by His grace and through no effort of my own that I even exist. **Humility** is the virtue that counteracts the sin of **pride**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I understand that without God I am unable to function in right and proper order. I realize that He can lovingly direct and order my life. I am willing to give Him my life and to agree to journey with Him. I will give God respect by returning to Him a share of all that He has given to me. I will be teachable. I will give God a prime place in my life every day. I will not take credit for my abilities and accomplishments, but rather give God and others credit. I will refrain from having to be the only one with the right answer or a credible plan. I will love and trust God. I will accept forgiveness from others, myself and God because I know that I am not perfect. I will take positive steps to avoid temptation and will not knowingly do anything to hurt God, myself or my community. I will not pity myself when I sin, but rather take positive steps to rectify the situation. I will not become involved in spiritualism, fortune telling, superstition or black magic.

I will show gratitude for others' knowledge and good works. I will not be territorial and will try to share with my neighbor. I will live in the reality of who I am and not act as if I am better or further advanced. I will live according to the same standards I set for others. I will not try to be a perfectionist; I understand that everyone makes mistakes because we are human and live in a fallen world. It is only God who does not make mistakes and I am not God. I will look at my sins realistically, take immediate responsibility for my behavior and make proper amends and restitution. I will not rationalize or minimize either my sin or another's. I will listen to constructive criticism and guidance from my community. I will treasure my spouse, children, parents and community as they reflect, as a mirror does, both my good qualities and those that cause pain and conflict.

I will tell the truth in love and refrain from lying. I will not let anyone else take the blame for my actions. I will learn to listen, giving others respect when they speak or just want to be quiet. I will not exaggerate or draw attention to myself by claiming wisdom or capabilities that I do not possess. I will recognize that God can and does speak to us through the words and actions of those around us, whether or not they are learned or respected. I will understand that He may speak through me to those or greater prominence.

I will recognize that every race, religion, dress and culture are a part of God's universe and that I am not superior to others. I will not overspend on myself or others for the sake of appearing good or kind or trying to impress. I will do my share of work knowing that I am no better than anyone else. I will pray for the grace to accept the position that God has given me in His Body of Christ.

I will consider myself as a Gift from the Lord. I will learn to love myself and celebrate the spiritual gifts, skills and talents that He has give me. I will encourage those around me and be non-judgmental. I will strive to have a servant's heart and learn that to lead, one must first learn to serve. I will be obedient to God and cooperate with others unless to do so would go against God's will.

LOVE

... love one another deeply, from the heart.

1Pet. 1:22

He answered: "`Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' ; and, `Love your neighbor as yourself.' "

Luke 10:27

DEFINITION

Love becomes a Virtue when we begin to love God, self and others unconditionally, just as God loves us. Love accepts a person as he is and not as we need him to be. **Love** is the virtue that counteracts the sin of **anger**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will love God, allow Him in my life and build a personal relationship with Him. I will be thankful and use the talents and gifts that He has given me. I will not blame God, parents or others for my unhappiness. I can recognize my part in a conflict, forgive and take responsibility in order to find healing and wholeness. I will use the feelings that God gave me. I can feel anger, sadness or grief over that which I have no control, forgive and then work to rectify the circumstances.

I will refrain from gossip and the temptation to speak ill of others. I will not take part in any attempt to ruin another's reputation. If I find that I have periods of uncontrollable anger, I will take proper steps to seek counseling. I will not turn anger against someone else, such as in hitting, excessively punishing my children, physically attacking someone, raging or using abusive language. I will try to treat each person with respect and dignity even though they may not act as if they want (or deserve) it. I will not return their anger with my own. I will pray to be able to love them.

I will not turn my anger against myself. I will care for the body that God gave me and not compare it with another. I will pray to be satisfied with my looks, intelligence and skills. I will pray to love myself in order that I can love my neighbor as God calls me to do. As I accept myself, I also accept the members of my community.

If I see that I am hating my body by mistreating it, I will seek counseling and guidance in order to receive the healing necessary to restore me to wholeness. I will go to my pastor or another experienced person in the spiritual community for guidance and prayer.

I will not feed a resentment, but rather speak out in love. I will try not to put another in an uncomfortable position. I will try to speak to them in a way that they can understand, not in the confrontational method that I prefer. I will forgive and make amends when appropriate.

I will demonstrate my love for my spouse, family and community by not being moody or spoiling their time with my own self-centeredness. I will be cooperative and conduct myself with dignity and honesty.

I will pray for the gift of mercy and embrace the qualities of commitment, presence, bonding and nurturing, sensitivity, compassion and tenderness so that I may be appropriately intimate with my spouse, family and community.

CONTENTMENT

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

Phil. 4:11, 12

DEFINITION

Contentment is being satisfied and willing to accept ourselves and to be grateful for the spiritual gifts and talents God has given us. Contentment allows us to be grateful for the circumstances of our lives and not to begrudge the good fortune of others **Contentment** is the virtue that counteracts the sin of **envy**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will love myself as God created me and let go of those things over which I have no influence or control. I will understand that the quality of a person is not defined by what society perceives as attractive. I am willing to accept my physical and intellectual shortcomings and to emphasize my own abilities. I will not obsess on the looks, skills or position of another. Serenity will be my goal. I will regard each member of the Body of Christ as important, and I will be satisfied with my station. I will attempt to make "lemonade out of the lemons" that life hands me.

I will treat each person with dignity and will not criticize or belittle those who have more or are in a position of authority. I will work cooperatively and avoid needless and excessive competition for recognition or position. I will see the good in others and show kindness and patience. I will recognize that life is not better over the next hill and that each of us have had misfortune. I will understand that my character has been molded by the hard and sad times, that there is pain in life, and that not everything will go according to my plan.

GENEROSITY

You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.

2 Corinthians 9:11-13

DEFINITION

Generosity is the ability to be satisfied with who we are, what we have and thus share ourselves and possessions with others. It is an attitude of unselfishness. **Generosity** is the virtue that counteracts the sin of **greed**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will put God in the most prominent place in my heart and mind. I will keep my position, material possessions and friendships in their proper priority. I will choose God's law over my own desires. I will regard people as God's children and protect the rights of those who are defenseless. I will give others the benefit of the doubt. I will expect my friends and associates to do what is moral and ethical. I will accept another's decision about their life even when it does not agree with my own.

I will give only sincere compliments. I will guard others' good name and reputation.

I will share with my community and not want the best or to be the first. I will allow others to go in front of me, to have the largest or best of what is presented with a glad heart and not for personal gain. I will listen to what others say even thought I believe that I have the right answer. I will allow others their own viewpoints and not be discouraged when others agree with them instead of me. I will set aside my work or other preoccupations to be present to anyone in my community. I will practice sensitivity by listening, discerning when they are in need and having a heart that is open to them. I will cry when they cry and laugh when they laugh. I will develop compassion for those who are less fortunate; I will be sad and concerned when misfortune strikes others.

I will live within my means so that I may share what the Lord has blest me with. I will pray for others. I will be supportive of the strengths of those in my community. I will endeavor to become the hands and feet of Christ so that He may reach through me and touch those who are

TEMPERANCE

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age...

Titus 2:11-12

DEFINITION

Temperance seeks moderation in all actions, material goods and appetites. It is self-control and restraint. **Temperance** is the virtue that counteracts the sin of **gluttony**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will seek a balanced life style and strive for self-control so that no one thing will become more important than God. I will abstain from food, drink, drugs and specific person or sexual activities that may interfere with my social or vocational abilities. I will set realistic goals for myself and have realistic expectations of my spouse, family and community. I will try not consider myself more important that others. I will refrain from obsessing about the accumulation of power, status and wealth.

I will face pain, suffering and the things that go wrong instead of seeking attachments that will camouflage my hardships. I will live in the reality of this day and not fantasize about what might happen tomorrow "if." I will accept help from my community in order to remain in reality.

I will take care of myself by getting an appropriate amount of rest, recreation, exercise, a wholesome diet and caring for my hygiene, teeth and any ailments. I will have regular check ups with my doctor. I will treat my body as a temple of the Holy Spirit.

I will pursue my spiritual and emotional growth in a balanced manner, being careful not to become obsessed with my progress or preoccupied with comparing myself with others. I will be content with the spiritual mission that God has prepared for me. I will not work harder in order to hasten union with God, but I will accept His timing.

I will view material possessions, people and life situations as a gift from God and will not become overly attached to any one person or thing and thus avoid other intimacies and responsibilities.

DILIGENCE & PERSEVERANCE

Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:4

Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.

1Tim. 4:15

DEFINITION

Perseverance develops when we diligently move toward a goal. It is using our spiritual gifts and talents for emotional and spiritual growth and the good of ourselves and others and the community. The virtue of **diligence, or perseverance**, is the opposite of the sin of **sloth**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will choose to attend church and read and study Scriptures and other books in order to progress on the Journey. I will not choose a dream world over reality. I will undergo hardships without complaining. If there is something that needs to be changed, I will proceed in an orderly way, not waiting for others to do it for me. I will ask the Holy Spirit to give me courage to become the person whom God created me to be.

I will choose to grow up and assume responsibilities and to problem solve so that I can make well thought out decisions. I will set life goals and methodically move toward them. I will be organized and make efficient use of my time. I will prioritize my relationships and goals. I will continue toward my goal even when I am discouraged or tired of the walk. I will "keep on keeping on" in order to reach a balance in my life.

I will be aware of events that impact the welfare of my community. I will follow through on relationships, courtesies and concern for family and community members by being attentive to those who have less, caring for the sick of body, mind and spirit and helping the youth and the senior members. I will meet my social obligations. I will assume my responsibility for being a loving mirror of my family and friends and not avoid working through conflicts.

I understand that the answer to life's proplems may not always be the easiest or obtainable without pain. I will meet my obligations even when i do not receive immediate personal or financial gain. I will fulfill my employment responsibilities by producing adequate work, being on time, meeting deadlines and completing the tasks that I am asked to do. I will treat those in my employ with dignity and concern, careful to deal with each person equally. I will be concerned for any injustice done to others and do my part in rectifying the situation when possible.

I will regard my body as a temple of the Holy Spirit and take care of it on a regular basis. I will care for my teeth, personal hygiene, dress neatly, and attend to any medical problems when they arise. I will care for my material possessions, pets and my home with consistency. I will keep trash cleaned up and my surroundings clean and in order.

PURITY

Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

1John 3:3

DEFINITION

We grow in purity of spirit when we love God and do not give ourselves to false gods and whe we treat our own and others' sexuality with respect and dignity. We confine sexual activities to thoes sanctioned by legal, moral and church standards of ethics. **Purity**, or **chastity**, is the opposite of the sin of **lust**.

MANIFESTATIONS

I will have no relationships with false gods, and I will remain pure in my love for God. I will turn from the temptations of allowing some one or some thing to take God's place or importance in my life.

I will regard my God-given sexuality with respect and dignity and I will provide the same guidelines for those in my family and community. I will foster the attitude that the sexual act is a gift of God. I will honor my spouse and remain faithful in body, mind and spirit. I will consider any literature I read, music I listen to, or films I view an extension of whom I profess to be. I will nurture myself with positive, clean and moral attitudes.

I will dress with modesty and never intentionally attract any comments or advances from another that would be out of order. I will strive to be a role model to those around me, knowing that I have more influence on my community than I realize. I will be responsible for my actions.
If I have problems with my sexuality, I will seek professional help. I will develop a healthy attitude about sex.

I will convey my healthy attitude to my children and properly instruct them in sexual matters. This is not only for their own protection, but also for the development of their

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT
SCENARIOS FOR DISCOVERY

On the following pages you will be reading a variety of different scenarios and then asked to respond. There are no right or wrong answers, so please be as honest as possible. The more honest you are, the more accurate will be your discovery of the gift(s) that God has placed within your life. One more point: even if you've never been in the scenarios to follow, don't sweat it. Just put down what you think you would do.

Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

1Tim. 4:14

For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands

2Tim. 1:6

Each one should use whatever
gift he has received to serve others,
faithfully administering God's grace
in its various forms.

1Pet. 4:10

Scenario 1

You are on a cruise ship that's bound for the Caribbean. Half way to your destination, during a storm, the ship strikes something and begins to sink. All around you see injured people lying here and there; you hear the screams of frightened people, young and old. The air is tangible with fear. In the midst of the chaos you notice that the captain and his crew have boarded a life boat and have left the passengers to fend for themselves. It's obvious that there are not enough life boats for the amount of passengers on board. The situation is desperate. What would you do?

I would...		No way, Jose!	Maybe...or maybe not.	Sure, why not?	Of course I'd do this!	Somebody stop me!
		1	2	3	4	5
1	assess the situation and come up with several options to deal with the crisis.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	tell as many people as possible to keep up their spirits and not to give up hope.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	share the gospel with as many people as possible.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	not freak out because I'd believe that God would work all things together for the good for those who love Him.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	get on my knees and begin praying for God's help in this time of crisis.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	rally as many people together as possible to help me implement an action plan to address this crisis.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7	walk around the ship and attend to the sick, injured, elderly, and anyone else in need.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	move about the ship to see where my skills could best be used.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9	gather the believers together to offer prayer and comfort.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	quickly move about the ship to look for materials that could be used to create makeshift life boats	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
11	allow others to get on the life boats before me.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12	visit with people and, while they were waiting to get on a life boat or to be rescued, I would try to make their waiting as comfortable as possible by showing gestures of kindness (e.g., If I had candy, I might hand them out).	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13	notice those who are truly helpful and those who are trying to save only themselves.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14	declare to people that in this time of crisis the wise thing to do would be to work together and not let fear rule their decisions.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15	(if I already knew about something about the ship and it's safety features) instruct those around me on the most appropriate behavior that would increase their chances of survival.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 2

A start up Christian band is coming to town. You get a letter from their manager saying that they want to perform "live" at your church with all the proceeds going to provide relief for victims of natural disasters. What would you do?

I would...

16	ask them if there was any way that I could "jam" or perform with them.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
17	give them a "love" offering to help offset their expenses and support their ministry.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18	offer my home if they needed a place to stay.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose!	Maybe...or maybe not.	Sure, why not?	Of course I'd do this!	Somebody stop me!
		1	2	3	4	5
19	be involved in making sure that all details of their "concert" would be covered (e.g., ticket distribution, PR, AV needs, concert location, housing arrangements, lighting needs, communication needs, transportation needs, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
20	volunteer to help in anyway I can.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
21	know without a doubt that God would use the concert to strengthen the church and draw unbelievers to himself	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
22	make sure that a "scholarship" would be set up for those who couldn't afford to attend the concert.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
23	be very concerned with the "spirituality" of the group, not just their popularity and musical talent.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
24	want the group to be sure to present the gospel in clear and concise manner.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
25	gather people together to pray for the concert and its impact on the church and the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
26	(if I were a youth leader) use the lyrics of the band's music to teach Biblical truth to my youth group.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
27	very encouraged if I knew that the band was known for its concern for social injustice and the moral decay of our culture.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
28	make certain that direction and the overall goals for the concert would be given and accomplished.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
29	be excited about the potential I see for the concert to spur the believers in the community on "to love and good deeds"	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
30	want to ensure that the concert would be a "spiritually" uplifting experience for the church.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 3

Someone in church was discovered to have committed adultery. What would you do?

I would...

31	want to know what the "real" heart issues were, not just the behavioral wrongs, so that the person would be treated lovingly and rightly.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
32	confront the person and share what the Bible says about such behavior with the intention of leading the person to repentance.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
33	approach the person and gently instruct him/her in the Word of God, knowing that the Word is good for reproof and correction.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
34	visit the person or invite them out for a cup of coffee to let him/her know that God forgives him/her and still loves him/her.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
35	be confident that in His time, God will draw the person back to himself.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
36	lift up the person to the Lord in daily prayer.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
37	call the leaders of the church together to decide how to deal with the "fallen" person.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
38	weep for the person, taking on their pain as if it were my own.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
39	be concerned with how this person's sin affects not only his/her own life but the life of the church.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
40	meet with the person (if possible) to share the gospel with him/her if I discover he/she isn't a believer.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
41	come up with a course of action to best deal with this situation.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
42	try to find out how I might be able to practically help this person out.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
43	send him/her a poem or inspirational story (i.e., something from Max Lucado) that would stimulate reflection.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
44	invite him/her over for tea or a meal to see how he/she is doing.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
45	help out monetarily if the consequences of his/her actions bring on extreme financial difficulty.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 4

Your church is growing and needs a bigger building to worship and minister in. The church has decided to go ahead and build a larger facility. What would you do?

I would...

46	want to be on the committee that overseas the organizational aspects of the building program.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
47	make sure that the plans for the new building won't move ahead unless thought is given to using the facility for reaching the community with the gospel.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
48	volunteer to help in anyway I can (e.g., hammering nails, carrying bricks, buying supplies at Home Depot, etc.) to make the building program a success.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
49	be on the committee that's in charge of how the building looks. God is a God of beauty, and so I would want to be sure that the building is not only functional but beautiful as well. A place that would inspire people to worship freely.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
50	want to be on the budget committee and contribute as much as possible to the financial undertaking of the building program.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
51	want to be certain that the church wasn't going to build a bigger building just to build a bigger building.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
52	be part of a prayer initiative to ensure that the building project was being founded upon God and not man. I would also want a prayer room to be included in the buildings floor plans.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
53	believe beyond a shadow of a doubt that God would use the building to build up His body and the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
54	suggest that a place for people in the community to just "hang out" and relax be part of the building design.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
55	make sure that the overall vision for the building program was clear and that the right people with the right gifts were involved in making sure those goals were accomplished.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
56	be sure to teach the underlying reasons for the building program so that all members of the church were on the same page. I would want ample classroom space to be a part of the buildings overall design.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
57	express my concern that the meeting of the spiritual needs of the body would not be neglected during the building program, and that the body's spiritual growth must be enhanced in order for the program to be called a success.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
58	speak my mind if I was convinced that the reasons given for the building program were less than satisfactory.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
59	be a "cheer leader" for the cause, motivating people to trust in God to do this work and to believe in Him to do "great and marvelous things" through the building program.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
60	want the building to be constructed in such a way as to meet the "whole" needs (e.g., educational, emotional, spiritual, psychological, and physical) of the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 5

A single woman in church has become very ill and cannot work any longer. She cannot take care of herself and her household. She has a little savings to make ends meet but will soon run out of financial resources. She has no relatives to take care of her. What would do?

I would...

61	offer up prayers on her behalf before the Lord of mercy and grace.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
62	mow her lawn (if she has one), vacuum her floors, take out the rubbish...basically anything I can do to help her out.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
63	visit her to listen and offer support. I might display "little acts of kindness" like buying flowers and send "hallmark" cards to lift her spirits.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
64	drop by regularly to pray and offer spiritual direction and support and to let her know that others in the church are praying for her as well.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
65	write a poem or song or draw or paint a picture that would taker her eyes off of her pain and onto the beauty of the Lord.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
66	organize a committee to consider how the church might be able to meet her needs.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
67	challenge the church to take on the care of this person, citing scripture that shows how the Lord honors those who care for the needy.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
68	make sure that her true needs were being met, not just her "physical" needs. I would also be concerned with how her heart towards the Lord is in this time of trial.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
69	send her a book or maybe an article that would give the biblical perspective on suffering.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
70	visit her to make sure that she truly knows the Lord and is assured of her salvation in Christ.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
71	rally others in the church take on meeting her needs on a consistent and deliberate manner.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
72	be at peace in my heart over her situation, being assured that nothing happens in life apart from God's will.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
73	be more than willing to help meet her financial needs out of my own pocket.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
74	drop by from time to time just to be with her and let her know that I "feel" for her pain and loneliness. I might not say anything and just offer a hug or I might quietly weep by her side.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
75	make sure that she is as comfortable and at ease as possible. If she couldn't leave her home, I would bring little things to her house to make her life brighter and more cheerful.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 6

The church as a whole senses a deep need to reach out to its community. What would you do?

I would...

76	want to be sure that whatever the church does, that it address the needs of the oppressed and socially "left out" peoples.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
77	see that every member of the "flock" be empowered to see his/her contribution to the community outreach.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
78	make sure that as people began to participate in the community outreach that no one would fall through the cracks and become bitter. I would send little notes of "inspiration" here and there and offer words of motivation to this person and that person.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
79	encourage that whatever forms the outreach takes that it include inviting people from the community into the homes of the believers for meals and fellowship.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
80	want to educate each member of the church regarding his/her spiritual gifting so that he/she would know what unique thing he/she could do to reach out to the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
81	be concerned that the whole initiative be "bathed" in prayer, knowing that unless God be foundation of the outreach, all labor would be in vain.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
82	see if there were any "hands on" ways that I could help with the community outreach.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
83	aware of those in the community who would seek to take advantage of the church as it reaches out and those who would sincerely want to be helped by the church.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
84	want the outreach to be interesting and innovative. Maybe a block party or a music concert or the development of a center that would educate people in art, drama, dance and music.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
85	consistently remind the believers about the original vision and goals of the outreach initiative, knowing that it's easy to lose one's original focus when details and deadlines come into play.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
86	be terribly disappointed if the outreach did not revolve around the proclamation of the gospel.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
87	sense a deep peace in my heart, knowing that God is in control and as long as we keep our hearts and minds on Him we could entrust the results of the outreach into His care.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
88	be an advocate for the poor and needy in the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
89	most definitely be involved in the "logistics" of the initiative. I would want to make sure that we had thought through all the options and details before ever venturing out into the community.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose!	Maybe...or maybe not.	Sure, why not?	Of course I'd do this!	Somebody stop me!
		1	2	3	4	5
90	assess the financial needs of the initiative and then get involved in meeting them, both personally and in encouraging others to give freely to the cause.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Scenario 7

A young couple in the church feels called to go to Albania as missionaries. What would you do?

I would...

91	purchase missionary biographies (e.g., William Carey, Hudson Taylor, Adoniram Judson, Brother Andrew, David Livingstone, etc.) for them to read and be motivated.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
92	personally approach the couple and find out how I might be able to support them financially.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
93	make sure that the church was aware of the needs of the couple and was intentionally moving to be an ongoing support team (both financially and spiritually).	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
94	want missions and the biblical basis for it to be taught from the pulpit and within Sunday school—whether I did it or someone else.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
95	find out what the needs (especially the helpless, poor and sick) of the people are in Albania and ask the couple how their mission is addressing those needs.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
96	ask the couple what are some of their strategies to bring the Gospel to the Albanians.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
97	address the believers and challenge them to wholeheartedly dedicate their lives to Christ just as the young couple have.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

		No way, Jose! 1	Maybe...or maybe not. 2	Sure, why not? 3	Of course I'd do this! 4	Somebody stop me! 5
98	want to be on the "missions committee" to ensure that the couple's needs and concerns would be addressed in an orderly and timely manner.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
99	meet with the couple to see if they are "spiritually" mature and ready to pursue a commitment to missions for the Lord.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
100	commit to consistently praying for the couple before and during their missionary calling.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
101	rejoice in my heart, being assured that the young couple are in the protection and safety of God's good hands.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
102	make sure that before the couple leaves for Albania (and while they were on the field) they would have "mementoes" (e.g., group pictures, event pictures, little messages from the children in church, etc.) to remind them of the support and love of their church family back home.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
103	gather the body of believers together to "lay hands" on the couple and commission them for the work of the Lord in and through them. I would want the body as well as the couple to know that through them the church has the opportunity to impact Albania.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
104	make myself available to help the couple in anyway I can—from making travel arrangements to stuffing envelopes to licking stamps, from distributing their newsletters in the states to delivering personal messages to members of the church.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
105	put together a cassette of their favorite songs or maybe even write a song especially for them. Whatever I do, it would have to something that was creative and original.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT
SCORING YOUR RESPONSES

1. Flip back to the first scenario on your Secnarios for Discovery packet.

2. Write down your numbered responses (1 to 5) that you checked off for each line, (starting from #1 and ending with the #105) next to their corresponding number below.

3. After jotting all the corresponding numbers down below, add up each line (row) and place their and place their totals next to the gift located to the right of each line.

1___	19___	41___	46___	66___	89___	98___	☐	ADMINISTRATION
2___	29___	34___	59___	63___	78___	91___	☐	ENCOURAGEMENT
3___	24___	40___	47___	70___	86___	96___	☐	EVANGELISM
4___	21___	35___	53___	72___	87___	101___	☐	FAITH
5___	25___	36___	52___	61___	81___	100___	☐	INTERCESSION
6___	28___	37___	55___	71___	85___	93___	☐	LEADERSHIP
7___	22___	38___	60___	74___	88___	95___	☐	MERCY
8___	20___	42___	48___	62___	82___	104___	☐	SERVICE
9___	30___	39___	57___	64___	77___	103___	☐	SHEPHERDING
10___	16___	43___	49___	65___	84___	105___	☐	CREATIVITY
11___	17___	45___	50___	73___	90___	92___	☐	GIVING
12___	18___	44___	54___	75___	79___	102___	☐	HOSPITALITY
13___	23___	31___	51___	68___	83___	99___	☐	DISCERNMENT
14___	27___	32___	58___	67___	76___	97___	☐	PROPHECY
15___	26___	33___	56___	69___	80___	94___	☐	TEACHING

List the five highest scoring gifts below:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

List other gifts that you believe you have that aren't listed above.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Now that you've completed scoring your responses to the Scenarios for Discovery, spend time reflecting on the following questions:

1. Do you feel the scoring is accurate? Why or why not?
2. In what ways are you using your gift(s) now? How about the past?
3. In what ways might you be avoiding the use of your gifts?
4. What are some things that might be hindering you from using your gifts?
5. What steps can you take to be more intentional in the use of your gift?
6. How does your gifting reveal God's grace in your life?
7. When was the last time you thanked God for the gift(s) he has given to you?

(detach, along preforated line)

The Gifts of the Spirit

Gift	Definition	Scripture reference
Administration	The ability to organize and guide human activities in such a way that Christ's program is carried out.	And in the church God has appointed... those with gifts of administration...1Cor. 12:28
Creative Ability	The ability to forward God's kingdom through creative skills such as music, drama, graphic arts, writing skills, painting, sculpting	...and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts... Exod. 35:31
Discernment	The ability to distinguish between truth and error, to know when a person or act is of God	...to another distinguishing between spirits...1 Cor12:10
Encouragement	The ability to motivate people through encouraging words to live practical Christian lives	...if it is encouraging, let him encourage...Rom. 12:8
Evangelism	The ability to present the gospel to unbelievers in a clear and meaningful way which calls for response...	It was he who gave some to be... evangelists...Eph. 4:11
Faith	The ability to envision what God wants to happen and to be certain he is going to do it in response to prayer, even when there is no concrete evidence	...to another faith by the same Spirit...1Cor. 12:9
Giving	The ability to support the Lord's work materially with generous, timely, and cheerful contributions	...if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously...Rom. 12:8
Hospitality	The ability to welcome and graciously serve guests and strangers	Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality... Rom. 12:13

The Gifts of the Spirit

Gift	Definition	Scripture reference
Intercession	**The ability to pray faithfully for others and to identify specific answers to those prayers**	Night and day we pray most earnestly... 1Ths. 3:10 With this in mind, we constantly pray for you...2Ths. 1:11
Leadership	**The ability to lead members of a group with caring concern and foresight**	**...if it is leadership, let him govern diligently...Rom. 12:8**
Mercy	**The ability to empathize with hurting people and to translate that into cheerful acts of service**	**...if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. Rom. 12:8**
Prophecy	**The ability to proclaim and apply God's truth so that believers may be edified, encouraged, and consoled, and non-believers convinced**	**...to another prophecy...1Cor. 12:28 And in the church God has.. appointed ... prophets... 1Cor. 12:10**
Service	**The ability to help others in their ministries by aiding them in practical ways**	**...If it is serving, let him serve... Rom. 12:7**
Shepherding	**The ability to oversee the spiritual lives of others and care for their spiritual needs by teaching and guiding them toward maturity.**	**It was he who gave some to be pastors...Eph. 4:11**
Teaching	**The ability to communicate knowledge to others for the purpose of upbuilding**	**It was he who gave some to be... teachers... Eph. 4:11**

Sign gifts NOTE: Our official position on the "sign" gifts (e.g., miracles, healing, speaking in and interpreting tongues) is that they ended with the last of the apostles. That is not to say that God cannot/does not reveal Himself through the sign gifts today. What is being said is that unlike the Apostolic age where the sign gifts could be performed on command by the apostles, today they are revealed sporadically here and there as the Lord sees fit.