

-Write down each member of your small group and take a guess at what you believe their two highest spiritual gifts are. Then spend time in prayer this week for each member of your small group. Thanking God for who he has brought into your life.



## **Observation, Interpretation, Application Study Tool**

### **Observation**

1. WHO is speaking? Who is this about? Who are the main characters?
2. WHAT is the subject or event covered in the chapter? What do you learn about the people, event, or teaching? What historical time frame is this being spoken in? What type of literature is being written here (historical narrative, poetic, prophetic, allegorical, wisdom literature)?
3. WHEN do/will the events occur or did/will something happen to someone?
4. WHERE did or will this happen? Where was it said?
5. WHY is something being said or mentioned? Why would/will this happen? Why at that time and/or to this person/people?
6. HOW will it happen? How is it to be done? How is it illustrated?

### **Interpretation**

1. Why is the author writing this particular passage?
2. What sinful, broken or fallen condition is being addressed or corrected by this passage?

## **Week 2: Day 6**

As we prepare for Phil's sermon on Sunday, let us spend the remainder of this week reading through the following two passages.

Read Acts 2:42-47 & Hebrews 10:24-25

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

-What are some "Applications" from this passage?

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-If we go through the list of disciples that Jesus had. How many do you think had the gift of teaching, prophecy, exhortation, mercy, serving, giving, and administration? Do you think Matthew a tax collector had the gift of teaching or the gift of administration? Just because we are not gifted in a certain area doesn't mean we are off the hook in other areas. Read 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:11.

3. What deeper sin or heart issues are being exposed or corrected?

4. How does this passage point to God's character and Glory?

5. How do we see God's redemptive plan (gospel) being worked out in the people's lives?

### **Application**

1. In what ways am I looking to find hope and fulfillment in things besides you, Lord?

2. In what ways am I seeking to earn your favor rather than live by grace?

3. What do my actions suggest that I'm wrongly believing about your character, our relationship, and what you've said in your Word?

4. In what am I making my treasure (looking to for my worth, identity and joy) other than Christ?

5. What old sinful thoughts and beliefs am I trusting in and need to repent of? What new thoughts and beliefs should I trust in and walk in according to my reading today?

## **Week 2: Day 1**

Again, if we look back at the definition of Koinonia it is **Participating together in Christ.** Jesse shared with us that communion was designed by God to “create communion or intimate fellowship between believers.”

When we think of intimacy, we almost always go to the marriage relationship. However, intimacy is not just something to be found in marriage, but also among believers.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:8-9, Ephesians 4:1-6

-What are some “Observations” that you see with this passage?

-What are some “Interpretations” from this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-Titus 2 gives us practical advice on how we should act but it also gives us how we are to respond to those around us. How we respond has nothing to do with our giftedness, but with who Christ is and what he has done for us. Choose 1 person in your small group to encourage and support them based on how God has gifted you.

## **Week 2: Day 5**

If how we respond has nothing to do with how God has gifted us, then why is it that we don't respond at times? Many Christians believe that because they only have a certain spiritual gift inventory, that means they can get out of many ministry opportunities. For example, if you don't have the gift of teaching then you do not have to teach. However, today we are going to see that we are still called to teach others.

Read Matthew 28:16-20

**I scored the highest in this gift:**

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**Second highest:**

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**Week 2 : Day 4**

We just finished taking a spiritual gift assessment. What is your spiritual gift? As we prepare ourselves for Phil's sermon on Sunday, "Fellowship-More Than Just Going to Church," we should start by asking ourselves based on my spiritual gift assessment what do I have to offer?

Read Titus 2:1-8

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

-What are some "Applications" from this passage?

-Based on what we have read, the intimacy between believers is Jesus Christ. If Jesus is the foundation for our intimacy between believers, what should that look like between our spouse, our children, or friendships? (See Philippians 2:1-4)

**Week 2: Day 2**

Yesterday, we spent time looking at intimacy between believers and seeing that Jesus was our foundation; the rock on which we build our relationships on. Today, we will spend time looking at what can hinder that intimacy, or what gets in the way of our intimacy with others.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> John 4:7-21

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some “Interpretations” from this passage?

-What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-The key to this passage we read and studied today is love. It is not the feeling or emotion. It's the verb. It's love in action. What does love in action produce or what does it do? It drives out fear. It is fear that keeps us from intimacy with others and even our spouse.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:7. What does this verse call us to do?

This week seek God through his word and pray that he drives fear from your life so that you can fellowship intimately with other believers.

73. When speaking to others, I find other people's material hard to present. I would rather develop my own.

74. I put great emphasis on word pronunciation.

75. Other people think I am not evangelistic because of the emphasis I place on personal growth.

76. Teachers who do not use a lot of Scripture when they teach don't bother me as long as the subject matter is Biblical and can apply to my life.

77. I am an emotional person; I cry easily.

78. I identify emotionally and mentally with others.

79. I have been accused of not being too spiritually minded.

80. I enjoy mechanical jobs around the church.

81. I think that a good indicator of spirituality in others is the amount of money they give to the church.

82. I have been accused of controlling my friends and situations with my money.

83. When there is no leadership in a group, I will assume it.

84. I have the ability to organize and coordinate projects and the people I work with.

61. I have the ability to motivate others.
62. I like the teachings that apply to my daily life.
63. My heart goes out to the poor, the aged, the ill, and the underprivileged.
64. I seem to attract people who are hurting or rejoicing.
65. I am already helping people while others are just talking about it.
66. I quickly respond to someone else's need for help.
67. When giving to the church or to others, I want to be sure my financial gift is used properly.
68. I tend to judge, "success" by the way people dress and the amount of money or possessions they have.
69. I must be a winner; I cannot bear defeat.
70. I am capable of making quick decisions and sticking with them.
71. You must "prove" me wrong before I will go along with you.
72. When preparing to speak to others, I do not enjoy studying to use material exactly as someone else has written it; instead, I read the material and adapt it for my use.

### **Week 2: Day 3**

Fear keeps us from intimacy with others. Keeps us at the surface of our fellowship. Such as the conversation we have over coffee and doughnuts. That is not what Christ called us to. Jesus called us to a deep and intimate fellowship with him and other believers. What does fellowship look like practically for us? That is what we are going to look at today.

Read Romans 12:6-18

-What are some "Observations" that you see with this passage?

-What are some "Interpretations" from this passage?

What are some “Applications” from this passage?

-God has gifted each of us differently. We are uniquely designed to fit into the body a specific way. How has God gifted you and what are some practical ways you can use that gift to participate with others in Christ? If you know what God has gifted you with fantastic, use the assessment as a refresher. If you have never taken a spiritual gift assessment you will never know what your gifted with. **(Assessment Sheet is in the Back the of Binder)**

## Spiritual Gift Assessment

1. I believe I am able to “see through” people and know their motives. I can usually tell when someone is “real”.
2. I have an inner desire to confront people who are sinning and stir their conscience.
3. I have an unusually strong desire to study God’s word.
4. I put great importance on education.

48. Teaching doctrine is all right, but I would rather be taught something that relates to every day life and motivates other people to change their lives.
49. I try to always appear loving.
50. I act on emotions rather than logic.
51. I am excited when someone wants me to serve.
52. I like to meet needs immediately.
53. When giving, I always like my gift to be high quality.
54. Other people think I am materialistic because of the importance I put on money in the work of the church.
55. When given a responsibility or project, I have no problem recruiting others to help me and giving those qualified the authority to do certain tasks without my direction.
56. I am willing to attempt impossible tasks for God.
57. I enjoy speaking publicly, and do it with boldness.
58. I really want to memorize Scripture and feel I must do so.
59. I have a tendency to question the knowledge of those who teach me.
60. Others accuse me of giving too many details.



39. I am always ready and willing to give money if a valid need exists.
40. I have the ability to make quick decisions concerning finances.
41. I do things promptly; I make decisions quickly.
42. I dream big dreams, although I don't always share them with others.
43. When confronting others, I feel I must verbalize (speak) to them. I would never feel content only writing to them.
44. When I see sin in people's lives, I always speak to them with urgency, pressuring them to turn from their sin immediately.
45. I feel very possessive of the things I write. If my material is going to be presented to others, I must present them myself because no one else could do it right.
46. The misuse of Scripture by those who misinterpret it upsets me.
47. I can list several steps to solve any problems my friends or I may encounter.
5. When I do something, I like to see "tangible" results for my efforts.
6. I enjoy teachers and preachers who teach on topics rather than those who teach the Bible verse by verse.
7. I am usually soft spoken.
8. I am patient and willing to help others when there is a need.
9. Performing simple, routine tasks in the church for God's glory fulfills me.
10. I am usually involved in a variety of activities that help other people.
11. I am well organized; after all, look how organized my desk, my room, my house and work is. I can find things when I need them.
12. I love to support missions.
13. I make decisions based strictly on facts and proven data.
14. I am a leader at school, work and church. I can communicate goals in a way that others may understand and fulfill them.
15. I can spot sin when other people can't.
16. I feel a great need to point out sin in others.

17. I like to use visuals and books to support what I say when I speak in public.

18. I constantly analyze for better ways to do and say things.

19. I am a very down to earth, realistic person. I enjoy practical teaching and instruction.

20. I am able to help others when they have personal problems.

21. I express my feelings easily.

22. I have a real burden (strong desire) to comfort others.

23. I don't wish to be the leader or most popular person in the church, or at school or work. I am satisfied with being one of the crowd.

24. I am burdened (greatly concerned) with the physical needs of others and want to help meet those needs.

25. When I give, I want it to be a private matter between God and me.

26. I am sensitive to the financial and material needs of others.

27. I like to set goals and fulfill them without worrying about what other people think or how they perceive my motives.

28. I work best under pressure.

29. I am impatient with people who do the wrong things.

30. I am disorganized! I depend on my family and friends to help me get to work, classes and church on time.

31. I have an organized system for storing information that I believe may be useful to me in the future.

32. If I were teaching, I would be more concerned with the content of the material than the needs and interests of the people I teach.

33. When studying the Bible, I am more interested in how it can help me solve the problems that I am going through than reading it strictly for content purposes.

34. I put great importance on God's will.

35. I am sympathetic and sensitive to others.

36. Other people consider me weak because of my care and concern for the troubles of the less fortunate.

37. I enjoy working with my hands.

38. I often let people talk me into things I don't want to do.