

## Invest Your Talents Psalm 139:13-16

You are unique, created one-of-a-kind for God's glory, for others' blessing and for your fulfillment.

### **You are unique**

“Unique” = single, sole, forming the only one of its kind

### **You are talented**

- God’s design began at conception
  - “unformed substance” (139:16)
- God’s design was meticulous and intentional

Ephesians 2:10

*For we are His workmanship....*

#### **1. Natural abilities**

#### **2. Learned skills**

Exodus 31:2–4

*“See, I have called by name Bezalel... I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze.”*

Exodus 35:25–26

*All the skilled women spun with their hands, and brought what they had spun, in blue and purple and scarlet material and in fine linen. All the women whose heart stirred with a skill spun the goats’ hair.*

Daniel 1:17

*As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom....*

Acts 18:24

*Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures.*

#### **3. Spiritual gifts**

– *What are spiritual gifts?*

1 Cor 12 – manifestations of the Spirit

1 Peter 4 – manifestations of grace

– *How many gifts are there?*

Romans (7)

1 Corinthians (17)

Ephesians (4 or 5)

1 Peter (2)

## Spiritual Gifts

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Apostleship</li><li>• Prophecy</li><li>• Tongues</li><li>• Interpretation of Tongues</li><li>• Healing</li><li>• Miracles</li></ul> | <b>Sign Gifts</b> |
|---|-------------------|
- Evangelism
  - Teaching
  - Exhortation
  - Administration
  - Leadership
  - Pastoring
  - Discernment
  - Wisdom
  - Knowledge
  - Faith
  - Giving
  - Service
  - Helps
  - Mercy

– Are spiritual gifts different than natural abilities or learned skills?

– Are there still miraculous gifts today?

- Periods of miraculous outpouring

Acts 2:22

*“...Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst...”* (cf. Hebrews 2:4)

- Periods of silence
- We are commanded to pray

## Your talents are not your own

Psalm 24:1

*The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it.*

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

*This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.*

## Application

*Discover Your Ministry* – 4/24, 5/1, 5/8

Take Inventory

- What do I do well?
- What do I enjoy doing?
- What have others affirmed in me?
- How can I use these things for God's glory, others' benefit and my fulfillment?