

Discovering Your Child's Gifts: Cultivating Your Child's God-given Identity

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Your gifts were given by God. Psalm 139:13-16 (ESV): “For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them.”

Your gifts make room for you. Proverbs 18:16 (ESV): “A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before the great.”

Your gifts are for God. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (ESV): “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord...but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.”

God has given you everything you need to do what He commands. 2 Peter 1:3 (ESV): “His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.”

Your gifts only find completion in the body of Christ. Romans 12:4-5 (ESV): “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

Your gifts grow as you walk with the wise. Proverbs 13:20 (ESV)—“Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.”

Discovering life purpose

- R = Review
- A = Anticipate
- C = Consult
- E = Enact



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R = Review

- Expectations
- Experiences
- Excellence

Inventory of gifts

- What motivates you? (For example: encountering problems to solve, encountering great ideas, getting feedback or applause, risk)
- How does you relate to others? (For example: team player, individualist, organizer, peacemaker, coordinator)
- What do you like to do? (For example: organize, persuade, teach, strategize, problem-solve)
- What kinds of things do you do that return energy to you, that make you feel more alive?
- What are some ways you could influence others in view of the above?

C = Consult

- What
- Who
- How
- When
- Why

A learning posture...

- “What made the difference for you?”
- “I’d like to hear your story about how you got into vocational field.”
- “What are the most important lessons you’ve learned along the way?”
- “If you had it to do over again, what would you do differently?”
- “What advice would you give to someone getting into that field today?”
- “Who are the key leaders in that field that I should be paying attention to?”
- “Who are some of the people who personally influenced you toward success?”
- “What are the five books you have found most helpful in this field?”
- “Are there any magazines or publications I need to be reading on a regular basis?”
- “What would you say are the essential principles for success in this field?”
- “Time and money aside, what would you rather be doing?”
- “What are your goals at the present time?”
- “Do you have a yearly planning process? If so, how does it work?”
- “How do you manage your time successfully?”
- “Have you ever coached anyone else to be successful in this field?”
- “What are some ways I can learn more about this field?”
- “What are some of the obstacles along the way that I’ll need to be aware of?”
- “What questions have I not asked that I should be asking?”



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