



## 04Clusters

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**0:00:02.4 Sonja Corbitt:** Let's Get Social. I'm no longer on Facebook, so come and connect with me in the new Catholic Evangelista community, visit [biblestudyevangelista.com](http://biblestudyevangelista.com) and click community on the menu, or scroll down to the radio notes and click the link to our community. We're sharing pics and prayers, love the word takeaways and insights on the daily readings and everything else social. Come share with me.

**0:00:25.6 Speaker 2:** If you like having Bible study in your pocket and you have an iPhone or iPad, why don't leave a review? Search Bible study Evangelista in iTunes, and tell everyone how you're loving and lifting all you've been given. Here's Sonja.

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**0:00:49.1 SC:** It's Bible Study Evangelista Show here with our Spiritual Gifts series. And I'm Sonja Corbitt the Catholic Evangelista. We are talking today about the spiritual gift clusters. You have finished the conference, and I hope that you were able to listen to at least all the speakers that you wanted to. There were quite a few, and many of those gifts that I did not score at all or high in, I still listen to because I know the speakers, first of all, and I appreciate their gifts, and that's actually a part of why I asked them to speak on those particular gifts, because I know that they have them. And so I was really interested in what they had to say about them, how they felt about their own gifts, so I listened to most of those, I hope that you did. If you were not able to listen to all that you wanted to, you can buy that backstage pass. I actually did that myself, that \$9 backstage pass, and then you have the whole year, well, at least the whole month, if you pay the \$10, you get the whole month to listen to the rest of them, so that's just something to think about.

**0:01:57.7 SC:** So we're talking then about the clusters. Now, a couple of words on the quiz, and some of you have said that I got some messages on the forum, which you can access on my website, [catholicevangelista.com](http://catholicevangelista.com) or [biblestudyevangelista.com](http://biblestudyevangelista.com), and you can click on that community tab and what happens then is that you have access to our community forum where we've been talking about our spiritual gifts, and some of you have said that you were a little bit confused because you've taken other gift inventories before and you got different results and all I would say to that is, first of all, the quiz that I put together and wrote up for you, it only had a 100 questions and there were 20-something gifts. I mentioned this in my closing and in the email last week, there were 20-something gifts, and so most of those only had four questions. Most of the gifts only had about four questions to evaluate whether or not it was one of your gifts. So the shortness of the inventory, first of all, may have contributed to your getting a different result, but then also I was very specific about the nuances in the gifts when I wrote it, so I would just say that if you got different results, don't go ahead and explore the ones that you did get, because the chances are, you may find out something about yourself that you didn't know before.

**0:03:30.4 SC:** And even if it's not, maybe your highest gift, you likely, if you scored high in any of those, you likely have some proclivity towards those, and so you don't wanna just discount something simply because it's a different result. I would also say though, that if you took a longer one, say, with the Catherine of Siena Institute, I wouldn't throw that out either because that's much more involved and you also get the interview to help you discern. So take all of the information together is really, I guess, my whole point. Take all of the information and begin your discernment process, and that kind of leads into the gift clusters. There are several ways actually to cluster the gifts together. There are two ways that I'm gonna give you that are kind of general way to group the gifts, but then there is your individual cluster, and what you wanna do in that case is take the top five gifts that you have and determine where and how you can use all of them at once, and I'll explain what I mean in just a moment. But one of the ways that you can group the gifts together is by the categories, and I call those categories, there are two equipping gifts and service gifts, and then under service gifts, you also have a sub-category which is sign gifts.

**0:05:02.4 SC:** So the equipping gifts, and I'm only using those that are outlined in the scriptures for us pretty clearly. So apostleship, prophecy, evangelism, and pastor teacher and communication would also fall in there. Equipping gifts, these are gifts that help equip other people for ministry. So the apostled in is the one who is sent. And we saw that actually in the readings this week, where Paul and Barnabas were sent, John Mark was also sent, they sent them out specifically to the Gentiles, and so you can see there then why it's called Apostleship, but that's what that means. If you listened to Father Larry's talk on apostleship, apostleship just means then that you're being sent, and so you're on a mission, and there's a sense in which we're all called to that sort of apostleship, that's part of what our Sacrament of Confirmation confers on us, so we're all sent in a sense, but then there's also a spiritual gift through apostleship, which is also sometimes called shepherding.

**0:06:15.6 SC:** And people who are gifted in shepherding or apostleship, they have this ability to sort of take responsibility for long-term spiritual growth of a group of Christians, and so you'll see this in all kinds of ways, you'll see it in small groups, book clubs, Bible studies, CCD classes any kind of group in which you feel responsible and others look to you for their spiritual formation, we could say. That's an indication that you have that apostleship or that shepherding gift, and so you think about what a shepherd does, he guides and he feeds and he protects a flock. And if you have this gift, then you feel this sort of responsibility for their formation and you're motivated by this desire to see the people who are under you growing in spiritual health and formation. So if you scored high in that area, you need to look for areas of ministry where discipleship is emphasized, and in which you can help guide others to spiritual maturity, and you're gonna be drawn to that automatically.

**0:07:30.2 SC:** That's one of the equipping gifts you're equipping, we'll just call them sheep because we're all sheep, Jesus said, we're all sheep, but think about it in that context of shepherding, where your responsibility is for their well-being and their formation, and this is in a spiritual sense. So you're shepherding people, a group of people, and you can do this in, say, a secular setting as well, so long as it's part of your intention to help form them spiritually. Now you can do that overtly by speaking to the group that you're responsible for, about their spiritual growth, or you can simply sort of do it in a gorilla way, where you're just actively loving on people and helping guide them, but maybe not so overtly, and you can be responsible for say a group at work, maybe you have a team under you, but your intention then is always toward their spiritual well-being so if you have that tendency, then that's probably one of your gifts. That's an equipping gift.

**0:08:37.3 SC:** Prophecy is also an equipping gift. Prophecy helps... There are different ways to look at prophecy, one of them is a word of God, a word of knowledge, or a word of prophecy. But then it's also a sense in which when you say something to a whole group, when you say something to a whole group and individual people feel that it is for them individually, that's an incisive way of speaking to people that helps build them up. Sometimes it can be an exhortation, it can be learning, it can be information about who they are in Christ, but it's very incisive, and in a word of prophecy sort of context, what you're doing is you're giving someone a word from God. Typically, when I do this, I'm asking God, how do you want to love on this person? Is the emphasis, faith, hope or love? And I'll wait for the Holy Spirit to tell me what he'd like to impart to this person, and sometimes I'll see a picture and I'll ask the Lord, "What does this mean? What do you want to say to this person?" And what happens is basically you're loving on them. Okay, that's one way to use the gift of prophecy, but then another way to use the gift of prophecy is in speaking.

**0:10:12.1 SC:** I use that gift. This is actually one of my highest gifts, prophecy and wisdom are two of my highest gifts, and so this gift comes out in me when I'm speaking to a group, and people come up to me later and say, "Oh my gosh. That was exactly what I needed to hear." God was speaking directly to me. I hear that all the time. I hear it in my writing, through my books, I hear it at conferences, I hear it all the time. And even one-on-one. When I'm doing one-on-ones, if I get that sort of that... I'll just call it a word from God, if I get that word from God, and I share it with someone, they'll typically say to me, "That's exactly what I needed." So that's a prophecy gift, and people who have this gift, they have the ability to proclaim God's truth without any compromise. You love people, but you tell them the truth and you do it in love, and people understand that you love them when you tell them the truth, and that's why they say, "That's exactly what I needed to hear." It's no ear tickling. But it also has this, when it's really infused with the Holy Spirit, it has this sense of love, it comes from a heart of love, it's not a correction, so much as it is God's loving truth. So you're able to proclaim God's word or His truth to someone without compromise, and you'll have this really strong conviction, and you want other people to have that conviction as well. We're on prophecy when we'll get back as an equipping gift.

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**0:11:52.6 Speaker 3:** You're listening to the Bible Study Evangelista Show, bible study spinach that tastes like cake.

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**0:12:01.2 S2:** Sonja created the Love the Word Bible Study method just for you, based on Mary's personal practice and formulated for your personality and temperament, get your Love the Word meditations every Monday morning by signing up at [biblestudyevangelista.com](http://biblestudyevangelista.com). Now, here's Sonja.

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**0:12:33.8 SC:** So people who have a prophecy gift as a spiritual gift then, they need to express themselves verbally and especially about what's right and wrong, and often they can be very quick to make judgements of other people and speak their opinions, so you have to be careful to speak the truth in love. If you have the spiritual gift, you're gonna need to say something. I see this happen when I'm in, say, a conference, and I'm listening to a talk, or I'm listening to a teaching, and I hear

something that I know is not biblical or it's not according to church teaching, immediately there is something in me that just absolutely... It is so difficult to not say something and I may do so later, I have to say something because that's part of that gift, right? So people who have a prophecy gift, they have an ability, and it's pretty unusual to discern other people's sincerity, it's not the same as discernment, but it's close, you can tell whether someone else is sincere and you can tell, especially with church teaching or with teaching in general, as far as spiritually, I'm talking about. So church teaching or biblical teaching. When you know that something is not right, it's very difficult to not say something when you have this gift.

**0:14:00.7 SC:** Think about Elijah, he's one of those Prophets. John the Baptist. I mean, John the Baptist was beheaded because he told the truth about Herod and the wife. So they just can't help it, they have to say, and so while they're doing that, while they're sharing that right and wrong, they're sharing it as part of God's own word to someone else, so prophecy is different than teaching. It's not really a matter of knowledge, although it can be, and I hope I'm not confusing you, but you can be really, really direct, and so you have to be careful to allow the Holy Spirit to temper this gift because you have to tell the truth in love. People cannot receive it from you if it's not loving, if they don't feel like you love them, so it's very, very important that you are abiding in Christ, that's the number one thing, which we'll talk about in our very last show. We'll talk about the importance of abiding but it's true for every gift, but especially this one, because it is so incisive and you don't wanna hurt people with the truth, this is what turns people off from the church or Christians in general, is people who have this gift of prophecy, who just try to bang other people over the head with the truth.

**0:15:22.2 SC:** And we've all seen through COVID that that just doesn't work. So people with the gift of prophecy then, they're really persuasive and they're good at defining right and wrong and they're persistent in expressing that the truth of it first, but then also a need for change. They express this need for change in someone else's life, and it's almost automatic, they can't help it. So if you scored high in prophecy, then you need to look for ministry areas where you can challenge others to live by God's standards, as set forth in church teaching and in the scriptures. A perfect place for that obviously would be in teaching classes on church teaching or the Bible or the sacraments, something like that, okay? So that prophecy then is another equipping gift because it helps people discern and know what is right and wrong. Righteousness, we could say.

**0:16:22.0 SC:** Another of the equipping gifts is evangelism. Evangelism, in its barest form, evangelism is simply sharing the good news, the gospel with other people. That's really all it means. People though, who have this gift, they have this really strong desire to share the good news of what God has done in their lives, especially with non-believers, and they wanna do it in every single situation and by all possible means. So these are the people who sit beside you on a plane and they pick up a conversation specifically so that they can share the Gospel with you, and you may be that person, where you look for ways to engage people in conversations so that you can share what God has done in your life. And part of your greatest joy in ministry is seeing people who are not Catholic or who are not Christian, or who are not following Jesus, to begin that journey. You have this really deep desire to fulfill the great commission that Jesus gave us to go and make disciples of all people. And so this emphasis causes you to spend lots of time and effort in evangelism, and you'll do this just about anywhere, in the marketplace.

**0:17:50.8 SC:** And honestly, when you have this gift, your focus is not in the church, you're not thinking about, like the shepherd is thinking about people in the church and the groups in the

church. You're thinking about people outside, how can I reach the people who don't have any idea what the Catholic Church is about and don't have any idea who Jesus is, and don't have any idea how much he loves them? That's the gift of evangelism. I remember many years ago when I was the Religious Education Director at our parish, our church is next door to public housing. Not a unit, but like a public housing neighborhood, and I wanted so badly to open the church once a week to the kids, especially the kids there, but also the adults even to have a meal, and then maybe some sort of really short teaching, but really all I wanted to do was just invite them in and share about Jesus, that's all I wanted to do.

**0:19:03.2 SC:** And we had a school, we had a school attached to our parish, and so the parents of that school were just not having any of it, so I wasn't able to actually invite them, but some of them did come, I did it anyway to be perfectly honest, I did it anyway, I invited them. And they began coming. So that is the gift of evangelism at work. Although I would say that if you have this gift, it is a burning desire, you must do this, you must be in places where you can share the Gospel with people who don't know Jesus, with people who don't know about the church, and you'll do it anywhere and everywhere, that's your burning desire, that is an equipping gift, because what that does is it draws people who don't know Jesus to him, and it begins, it's like a jump start. It begins their journey, and then what we'll happen is the shepherds will step in and they'll want to group them, they'll want to put them in a little group of formation so that they can continue, right? So the evangelist begins the work and the shepherds continue it. Then you've got teaching. Teaching is another equipping gift. People who are gifted in the area of teaching have this ability to explain God's truth so that other people can not only understand it, but they can apply it to their own lives, it's not enough to just have the knowledge.

**0:20:36.6 SC:** You have to be able to present the knowledge in a way that helps people apply it directly to their own lives, and this is why it's a spiritual gift, it's different than medical knowledge or science knowledge, although you can use that gift in all of those areas, but when we're talking about spiritual gifts that build up the church and that's the whole point of them, then you're using the knowledge to be able to teach other people so that they can understand it and apply it, teachers have the desire and the ability to research and then present that truth in organized and systematic ways that are easy for other people to understand, they're really alert to details and they like accuracy in the knowledge and the information that they're passing on, they're motivated by a desire to learn and to share that knowledge with other people, they believe strongly in teaching as a basic foundation on which the church grows and remains faithful, this is my whole ministry, besides the healing piece, teaching is the main push under, well, under wisdom and prophecy.

**0:21:56.5 SC:** But my teaching gift is how the wisdom and the prophecy works, do you see how they're clustered, right? I'm just using myself as an example to show you, this is how they're clustered. So I have wisdom, I have prophecy, I have teaching. And the wisdom and the prophecy work through the teaching, the Healing also works through the teaching. So what I do is I learn about stuff in the Bible, I take all of that information and I share it with you in a way, I hope that it's easy to understand because the Bible can be very difficult, right? And church teaching can also be very difficult, you pick up a catechism and try to read it, and about every other word you're gonna have to look up in the dictionary because it's just really elevated language, so my job then is to take all of that really difficult stuff, and present it in a way that is easy for you to take with you. So that's why I say Bible study spinach that taste like cake, right? So I'll give you the spinach, but I try to present it in a way that is easy for you to receive it and apply it, so it's not enough for me to be able to explain something in the bible and give you all the really cool trivia and information that I just

geek out on, it's not enough to do that.

**0:23:09.5 SC:** You have to also help people know how it works in their own life, if you can't do that, then it's just gonna fall flat and dead, they're gonna have lots of trivia knowledge, but no application, and we see this a lot in apologetic circles where people, they vomit all this great information on you, but they don't really tell you what's the point, you know? And I don't mean always, I shouldn't generalize like that, but I say that because I got called in that trap myself. More on teaching as an equipping gift when we get back.

[music]

**0:23:52.7 S3:** You're listening to the Bible study Evangelista Show. Bible study spinach that taste like cake.

**0:24:00.6 S2:** Did you know you can get Bible Study Evangelista radio notes and podcast delivered to your inbox every Monday morning? Redeem your Mondays, join thousands of your fellow listeners by subscribing at [biblestudyevangelista.com](http://biblestudyevangelista.com). Now here's Sonja.

[music]

**0:24:37.1 SC:** Teaching as an equipping gift, in that cluster of equipping gifts. Teachers are really alert to details and they place great emphasis on accuracy, they want it to be accurate, they want to know, for instance, for me, I wanna know what the actual Greek word is. I wanna know what the nuances of the definition are, because that helps me explain to you what the Bible is saying when it says something specific, for instance. When it says, "Be holy for I am holy." Sometimes that's translated as, "Be perfect as your father is perfect." So I don't know about you, but when I hear the word perfect, that's a whole different thing than the word mature. Perfect to me means flawless. It means there's nothing, there's no flaw in it. You might even say, I'm sorry, I got choked. You might even say sinless. Sinless would be flawless. So sometimes when we hear that verse, "Be holy, for He is holy," or, "I am holy," or, "Be perfect for your Heavenly Father is perfect." We hear sinless and we go, "Well, I can't be sinless." Well, unless you look that word up, What does perfect actually mean it means mature, and we can all then grasp that a whole lot better.

**0:25:56.5 SC:** Okay, so my call is to maturity, which is an ongoing conversion idea, less than sinless, which is flawless, so the nuances of the words are really, those kinds of things are very important to teachers because first of all, they want to learn it and understand it themselves, and so they are total geeks when it comes to studying. And it doesn't always really matter what the knowledge is that they're learning, they just really love it. But in the context of a spiritual gift, we're talking about building up the church, so then we're talking about biblical knowledge and church teaching, knowledge of church teaching, the church fathers, those kinds of things, and so people with this kind of gift, they totally geek out on all that stuff. They love reading stuff like Thomas Aquinas and the church fathers, and the Catechism, and they love all that stuff. And other people are like, "Oh my gosh, that's so boring. I can't even imagine how I would sit down and read the Catechism," and if that's not your gift, then you're not gonna wanna do it nor do you need to, because that's the teacher's responsibility, that's their role.

**0:27:06.8 SC:** And I shared that part of how I discerned that that was a gift was by looking back. Once I scored really high on that, of course, I kinda fell into it. I told you it was an accident, and of

all things, I just made the connection this week that my very first Bible study that I taught was on the Book of Acts, which is the birthday of the church, which is why we're doing this whole thing on spiritual gifts, right? But what was so neat about that was I could not get enough of it, I studied all the time. I accumulated books just so that I could... I wanted every language, I wanted all the Greek, all the Hebrew, I wanted all the commentary, and then once I found the Catholic church and all of the writings of the church fathers and all of their sermons and all of the Encyclicals, I mean, it took me three years to read my way into the church, because I read everything. I read the church fathers all the way up to the Nicene Fathers, so I read ante-Nicene all the way up to the Nicene. I read every bit of apologetics material I could get my hands on.

**0:28:10.5 SC:** I read the Encyclical, I read Thomas Aquinas, I could not get enough of it, and that was on top of my biblical knowledge, which I had a great battery of that from my years as a Baptist. So all I'm saying is teachers then, if you scored high in this area, you're gonna wanna find a ministry in which you can challenge others with church teaching and Bible teaching, and those kinds of things that you have discovered in your own personal study, you're gonna want to study almost more than the teaching part, it's the study and the learning really, that drives the gift because you can't keep it to yourself, you have studied, you have found this amazing stuff, and you just cannot wait to share it, so that is a teaching gift that is in the cluster of equipping gifts, okay? So the equipping gifts then are apostle shepherd, prophecy, evangelism, and teacher. Also, you could say that communication goes in there as well, but it could also fall in to service gifts, which we'll talk about in just a moment. But communication is the way then that you convey information, and you can do that through, say, a podcast like this, you can do it through writing, you can do it through all kinds of ways.

**0:29:43.2 SC:** You can communicate through art even, but I'm thinking specifically like graphics, that's a way of communication. If you listen to Daniel's talk, she went through that really well. But those are equipping gifts, help equip other people for their ministries, okay? That's what an equipping gift is. So that's a cluster, that's a way of clustering some of those gifts. Someone mentioned that they would really appreciate having Biblical examples for each of the gifts, so I want to just mention that the shepherding or the Apostle gift, that's pretty obvious. That would be like Saint Paul, that would be Jesus himself who shepherded the apostles and then sent them out, but St. Paul is a great example there because he was a church grower, he planted churches and then he grew them and he continued to visit. Throughout the readings this week, we saw that where he circled, he went to Antioch and then he traveled away from Antioch and then he circled back to check on them, right? And he would do that quite a bit, if you read through the New Testament, you'll see that he did that.

**0:30:54.5 SC:** So he's an example of that, I gave you Elijah as a prophet, and also John the Baptist as a prophet. Evangelism, that would also be St. Paul, but really any of the apostles, because their whole point was to go tell everybody what they knew about Jesus, right? And so they were age evangelists, teachers in the Bible. Paul again, comes to mind, but so does Peter, because Peter, he stands in the temple and he teaches the Jewish people about Jesus, and he breaks open those prophecies from the Old Testament. So Peter is one of those, St. John is a beautiful teacher, look, he's also actually a prophet. St. John was the writer of the Book of Revelation, so he has that prophecy gift as well. Any time you read in the writings, especially the letters of St. Paul and St. John and St. Peter, they are using their gift of prophecy to explain what is right and wrong in the churches, Paul is actually, he uses some really strong language and so does Peter. John is a little more gentle, but you can see that they all have these equipping gifts, apostleship, shepherd, those

are the same gift, apostle shepherd, the prophecy gift, the evangelism gift and the teaching gift.

**0:32:24.6 SC:** So you can see how those all work together to equip the saints for ministry, as Paul says in Ephesians Chapter 4, that's the whole point, I explained through the conference, but then also in the previous couple of episodes of the podcast. That was the whole point. We are to equip the saints for ministry, okay? So those are equipping gifts, then we have service gifts, and there are a bunch of those administration, encouragement, faith, giving, mercy, leadership, service or helps. Service and helps, serving gifts, help gifts those... Actually, they get lumped together but there's a little nuance that makes them a little bit different. Also caregiving, craftsmanship, discernment. Let's see, hospitality, intercession, mercy, musicianship, and communication, you might could say that that would actually go in either or the equipping or the service, but most of the time it would be included in the service gifts, it just depends on you ask. But I'm gonna lump it in with the service gifts because it is a way of... Sometimes it's not just a matter of communicating truth, it's a matter of communicating practical information like how to get some from A to B.

**0:34:06.3 SC:** Like literally directions, like if you are one of those people who is like an MC for an event, that's a communication, and I realized that a lot of times, we don't see these things as spiritual gifts, but if you love doing that, it takes a really special person to be able to MC something like that in a really fun, informative way. And so if you're doing that in a way that helps other people, then it would qualify then as a service gift, when I say helps, it assists those who are using equipping gifts, so if your communication helps the shepherd or the prophet or the evangelist or the teacher, if you're helping that person with your communication skills then that's a service gift, you're using it as a service gift, but also the shepherd, the prophet, the Evangelist and the teacher also uses communication skills, right? So you can see how they overlap, that's part of why some of this is a little bit confusing, because some of these gifts, they overlap in different areas and they're clustered together, and so it's really important for you to look at what your highest gifts are, so that you can figure out a place, a way for you to be able to use all of those gifts at one time.

**0:35:22.8 SC:** So I hope that I'm gonna be able to help you with that, but the service gifts, then there are a bunch of those, and then under service gifts, we have sign gifts, and those would be miracles, healing and the gift of tongues and interpretation of tongues.

[music]

**0:35:52.6 S3:** You're listening to the Bible Study Evangelista Show, Bible study spinach that taste like cake.

**0:36:00.6 S2:** If you love having Bible study in your pocket, you can become a friend of the show, click on the yellow Friend of The Show button on biblestudyevangelista.com and become a supporter of any amount and any frequency. Now, here's Sonja.

**0:36:14.6 SC:** Since there are so many that would be clustered under the heading service gifts, I'm gonna wait on those and present those individually next week in next week's podcast, but I want to share with you another way that you can cluster these gifts together, so there are vocal gifts the power to say something. So you have tongues and interpretation and prophecy, you have teaching, evangelism, those would be speaking gifts, alright? And then there would be revelation gifts, that could be another way to cluster them, those are the power to know, you have the power to say in the vocal gifts and the power to know in the Revelation gifts, that would be the knowledge gift, it



would be the wisdom gift, discerning of spirits gift, and then you have visible gifts or the power to do that would be the faith gift, healing gifts, miracle gifts, that kinda thing. Alright, so that's another way that they can be clustered together or grouped together, the power to say, the power to know and the power to do. I'll get into that maybe a little more in another show.

**0:37:28.6 SC:** I wanted to just offer another way to cluster the gifts, you can say nurturing gifts, which tend to be committed to building up the group, the small group kinda thing, in which you would use wisdom, shepherding, encouragement, helping discernment, faith, compassion, outreach gifts, apostleship evangelism, miracles, mercy, healing service, prophecy, all of those are trying to pull people in from the outside, so those are missional in nature, and they're trying to serve the community by reaching out to others, so the focus is outward rather than inward, where the nurturing gifts are turned inward, then you would have learning gifts, where the focus is local, that would be knowledge, faith prophecy, teaching evangelism, encouragement and healing those that is sharing your own faith to a group in a way that helps grow the whole parish, your whole church. So learning gifts and then organizing gifts.

**0:38:31.3 SC:** Parishes that are really highly organized are structured and they have lots of rich programs, they have lots of committees and teams, and they got a lots of people. So the focus then is on the church itself, usually building up the church itself, you'd have knowledge, administration, giving, leadership, helping, teaching, wisdom, all of those. None of these is wrong, okay? This was another point that I really wanted to make, first of all, none of these clusters is actually wrong, the first one that I gave you, the two divisions, the equipping gifts and the service gifts, that is more biblical than the others that I presented, but none of them are wrong, they're just different ways of going about ministry in a parish, and so they're all needed. One of the things that I've seen happen over and over again is that when someone gets busy using their gift and they start to get really full of, just the thrill of being able to do so, they sometimes step back in judgment and look at everybody else who either isn't doing something or they're doing something different, and because it's not what they're doing, they think the other people are doing the wrong thing, and that's just not how it is, it's all needed.

**0:39:53.0 SC:** Which is why it's so important that you use your gifts, that you find out what they are and you begin using them, and the thing is, in parishes and in the church as a whole, there are so many ministries. I tried to make a list of ways that you can use particular gifts, and there were so many ways, it just got overwhelming, and so many parishes call things different stuff, right. So it's hard to say, in my particular parish, we have a very limited selection of ways that you can serve, but they're diverse, so it was really hard for me to try to do that, so I'm not even gonna try it, maybe not at least today.

**0:40:36.4 SC:** But I just wanted to make the point that every one of the gifts is necessary, so it's important that we are turned inward and that we're taking care of one another in the parish, but it's also important that we're focusing on the world and serving the people outside the world and that we're missional, it's also important that our focus is learning that we're learning our faith and we're growing in the knowledge of our faith, you must be in classes, if you're not in classes, I mean, what you're listening to right now is, it could be considered a class, so if you listen to podcast and you read lots of good books and all that, then you're learning, but it's really important to use that knowledge then if you'd love to accumulate that knowledge, it's important for you to share it in your parish, find ways, if you don't see the places that you can use your gifts.

**0:41:28.8 SC:** Especially if you have this desire to work in a particular ministry and you don't see it in your parish, then start it, and it doesn't have to be in the church, you can start something in your town or in your home, depending on what it is. But do it because all of these focuses, is that a word? Focuses? All of these focal points, we'll say, are important, it's important to focus on the growth of the parish and the people in the parish, it's important to focus on the people outside and serve them in the world, it's important to focus on teaching and helping people learn their faith, it's important to be a good steward of our parish in giving an administration and in helping and teaching and all that stuff, it's important that we're all contributing. So all of them are good. All of them are important, okay?

**0:42:20.4 SC:** So I'm gonna end then the podcast on that note, but I wanna turn my attention to a couple of other things, one of them is, I want to be sure to explain, especially because we have so many new people, and I want to just welcome you. I want to welcome you personally and say, I am so thrilled that you participated in the conference that you took the spiritual gifts quiz test, and I hope that you've gotten enough information in this particular podcast that you feel fed and that you want to come back for more. I do Bible study all the time, that's my whole push, everything that I do, it's all centered around healing and the scriptures, and so the reason that I chose the spiritual gifts series is because using your spiritual gifts helps heal you, it's very healing in and of itself, because it comes from the Holy Spirit who is the healer.

**0:43:14.2 SC:** So it's a huge piece in your ongoing formation, it's a huge piece in the renewal of the church, in the healing of the whole church, and that was the other really big focus that I was really driving, I was sitting with the Holy Spirit. And you know, how do we contribute? How do I help other people contribute to the renewal of the church, because so many of us are just looking around going, "What can we do. We gotta do something. What do we do?" And this is the answer, this is the Bible's answer to renewal both for us individually by using our gifts, but then for the parish and then for the church, and then for the whole world. And so that's part of why I wanted to do this series, and I wanted to really give you a good biblical basis in what the spiritual gifts are and what the Bible says about them, and the people in the Bible who are using their gifts, so that you can see yourself in those people and maybe study them, so that's been goal. And I just want to thank you, if you are a new listener, I just want to welcome you and say, I'm so thrilled that you participated in the conference and you took the test, and I hope that you'll just stick with me.

**0:44:22.4 SC:** The next series that we're gonna do is, it's gonna be called cherished. And it is how God uses our vocation specifically to marriage, because most of us are married. But how he uses our vocation to heal us, and I'm going to... My husband and I are gonna do this together, so you're gonna get a male point of view for all the guys out there who listen to me, and there are so many of you, and I just welcome you too and just say thank you for listening. But I meet you all the time and I love it. So you're gonna really enjoy this because my husband is going to present a male point of view, and then I'm going to present obviously the female point of view, the wife and the husband. And we're gonna do it together and we're gonna talk about how God has used our marriage to heal us and is healing us, not that it's over necessarily, but that he continues to use it to us, and how the Bible talks about that relationship as a healing relationship because we know that the whole point of marriage is to get another to heaven and to get our children to heaven, so that's the next series coming, so if you have enjoyed this particular podcast, I hope that you'll continue through the rest of the series so that I can give you the rest of the information on the spiritual gifts, and then on through the cherished series where we're gonna talk about healing in marriage.

**0:45:43.0 SC:** I also want to explain something that I've had a few questions on this week and last week, love the Word is a way of praying with the scriptures every day, and we do that with the readings of the church, if you're interested in what that means and how to do it, go to [catholicevangelista.com](http://catholicevangelista.com) or [biblestudyevangelista.com](http://biblestudyevangelista.com), click About and then Love the Word, and it will give you a free guide page and journal page that you can use to try that method using the readings of the church. But the podcast, the fresh wind podcast, is what you're listening to right now. And I add, I love the word exercise to every podcast, which is why if you sign up for love the word, then you automatically get the fresh wind podcast and every other series that I do, so love the word, signing up for love the word is the same as signing up for the podcasts, and of course, you can opt out anytime, but I wanted to just clear that up because some of you have been asking, "How do I get Love the word. How do I get the fresh wind?" If you sign up for one of them, you get them both.

**0:46:50.7 SC:** So also I want to just shout out a big thank you, I don't have time today to do one at a time, but I'm going at some point to shout you out by name, all of you who are my friends of the show, I just thank you for your support, your monthly donations have saved me, especially now, I can't wait to tell you all that is going on, you're not gonna believe what's been going on in this past month, it has been crazy, the stuff that the Holy Spirit has been doing with me in my ministry with my husband, lots of stuff going on, so I can't wait to tell you that, but you friends of the show have kept me on the air. You've kept me in business, in the business of evangelism, so I thank you for that, and I just want to thank you by doing those monthly Zoom meetings, so we'll do another one of those, the details will be in the email, so thank you all, all to my friends of the show, I pray for you and offer masses for you and I just appreciate you so much, and welcome once more to all the new listeners, and hello there to all of those who have been listening to me for so long and have been friends for a long time, I will see you next week when we talk about the service gift cluster. I'm Sonja Corbitt the Catholic Evangelista.

**0:48:00.3 Speaker 4:** You're listening to the Bible Study Evangelista Show. Its Bible study spinach that taste like cake.