

## EXHORTATION

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The **Exhortation** gift involves offering a word of hope combined with a gentle push to action for those who are discouraged, tentative, or needing direction. People with this gift come alongside to offer reassurance and affirmation, and, when needed, to challenge or confront, all with the goal of seeing others grow to greater maturity. Exhorters, through the power of the Holy Spirit, can help people move further and go deeper than they would if left to themselves. These people help us go the distance and believe in our great value, even in times of challenge or personal attack. This gift is sometimes called Encouragement.

This is one of my gifts \_\_\_\_\_

I am unsure if I have this gift \_\_\_\_\_

This is not one of my gifts \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions on the assessment that pertain to Exhortation:**

Review each question and jot down what comes to mind:

*I am able to motivate others to persevere in the face of discouragement and struggles.*

*People think of me as an encouraging friend.*

*I enjoy helping people take steps toward greater maturity in any aspect of their lives.*

**Some words that describe people with this gift:**

Put a checkmark below if you feel the word describes you:

Affirming

Optimistic

Reassuring

Heartening

Motivator

Strengtheners

**Potential negatives to this gift:**

Check the ones that feel like particular warnings for your use of the gift:

Sometimes may only speak a word of hope in order to be liked.

Exhortation may make the encourager attractive to others, causing one to forget that the gift is from God not the person.

May be a person who needs much encouragement, so may get personally discouraged if they feel like the only one exhorting others.



Some possible ways to serve using this gift:	Check which ways to serve sound like a potential fit for you, or add to the list:
• Counselor	
• Mentor/coach/spiritual gifts advisor	
• Sunday School teacher/Adult Education teacher/ Children's Church leader	
• Correspondent to missionaries	
• Stephen minister	
• Deacon/hospital visitation	
• Small group leader/assistant	
• Elder/support for pastoral staff	
• Anywhere in the workplace	

### Quotations from individuals with this gift:

GB: "I see God using this gift when I have the opportunity to come alongside young women who are dealing with unplanned pregnancies. They do not get a lot of encouragement in their lives, so it is a blessing to allow God to work through me to build them up in a time when they feel so uncertain about anything. Even a little bit of encouragement goes a long way."

FB: "I have seen God use this gift to take people higher than they would have gone on their own. I remember the first time I recognized this gift was at a summer camp when I was a senior in high school. The entire camp was climbing up a mountain to a cross at the top, and it was not an easy hike. A lot of the people needed some serious encouragement so I was singing the whole way up and using 'great job!' over and over. By the time it was over, we had all made it up the mountain. That's the way I've seen God use this gift in my life, using me to help others get to the top of a mountain that they may not have made on their own."

If you think you have this gift, write your own quotation (a description of what this looks like in your life):

Having reviewed this gift in detail above, who else do you think exhibits this gift?

Jot down your reactions/reflections here: