

## MERCY

<p>People who exhibit high levels of compassion, concern, care, and kindness are likely those with the God-given gift of <b>Mercy</b>. People with this gift gently come alongside others who are in pain, in need, or are lonely. God's grace and love is shown in practical ways through this gift. The mercy gift is one of comfort, support, and presence with those who are suffering, in crisis, or otherwise hurting. Those with this gift reach out to others who are broken, having themselves experienced God in their own brokenness. They show God's heart to those who need the empathy of a listening ear and human company.</p>	<p>This is one of my gifts _____</p> <p>I am unsure if I have this gift _____</p> <p>This is not one of my gifts _____</p>
<p><b>Questions on the assessment that pertain to Mercy:</b></p>	<p>Review each question and jot down what comes to mind:</p>
<p><i>Comforting those who are suffering comes naturally to me.</i></p>	
<p><i>My automatic response when someone is hurting is to come alongside and offer a listening ear and a shoulder to cry on.</i></p>	
<p><i>People describe me as compassionate and empathic.</i></p>	
<p><b>Some words that describe people with this gift:</b></p>	<p>Put a checkmark below if you feel the word describes you:</p>
<p>Caring</p>	
<p>Compassionate</p>	
<p>Loving</p>	
<p>Approachable</p>	
<p>Kind</p>	
<p>Gentle</p>	
<p><b>Potential negatives to this gift:</b></p>	<p>Check the ones that feel like particular warnings for your use of the gift:</p>
<p>Can wear out if there are no boundaries or limits on commitments that demand lots of energy and resources.</p>	
<p>May not see this as a unique gift they have, assuming all in the Body of Christ think and act as they do.</p>	
<p>May be taken advantage of by those who are manipulative.</p>	



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:
• Deacon	
• Counselor/counseling ministry/mentor	
• Hospital visitation/prison ministry/victim advocate	
• Nursery/preschool teacher/assistant/Sunday School teacher	
• Stephen Minister	
• Ministry to seniors	
• Pregnancy center worker	
• Anywhere there are people in need—family, friends, neighbors, co-workers	

### Quotations from individuals with this gift:

NB: "This gift drew me to serve as a victim's advocate with the police department. It was the desire to offer comfort, support, and to be present with people when they were in the midst of an emotionally painful event in their lives."

MH: "I always try to put myself in someone else's shoes. Thus, I can often see why one did something or said something because of his/her circumstances, and thus I am able to forgive or love a person who probably does not feel like they should be forgiven or loved."

SD: "The best way that I know how to describe mercy and how I use it in my life is: Meeting someone where they are with what they need."

JC: "It is God who dumps mercy on me the whole day long. He never stops the mercy river; my job is to transfer it to the next person in line."

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: