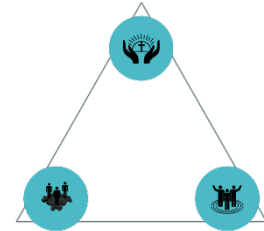


Get a Grip #7: Supernatural “We”: Your Spiritual Gifts in Body-Building Language



“From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.” (Ephesians 4:16)



Body-Building Roles



CORE
BELIEF

God designed us with strengths and weaknesses. God designed every person to play a role in strengthening, building and expanding the Body of Christ. The weaknesses create “Need” areas where we build each other up.



The Third Angle: How Does Your Spiritual Gifts Combination Function in Body-Building Language?

We have often made leadership into a person. Leadership is not a person, but rather a combination of roles fulfilled by a group of people. A leader is still needed, because God wants each one of us to learn how to follow Him by practicing submission to leaders whom He places over us. But the tasks of leadership are to be shared by a group of people. Why? Because God designed each of us to be powerful in two or three stewardship roles, and weak and thus needy in the other two or three Body Building roles. Paul Ford

Discerning Your Body-Building Roles: What Body-Building Roles are revealed in my “gift blending”?

The third angle of the Spiritual Gifts Triangle represents how your gifts work in the larger Body of Christ. Just as Team Styles are an inward connection—how do we most effectively live and function in a team, the **Body-Building Roles** are external expressions of Gifts; these are ways in which we build and expand the Body of Christ.

What primary and secondary Body-Building Roles does are revealed in your combination of Spiritual Gifts?

- **Active Listener** – watchful, listening for what God has already prepared (John)
- **Equipping Releaser** – training, enabling and freeing players to play their parts (Paul)
- **Supporting Releaser** – serves others, freeing them to use their gifts (Luke)
- **Team Builder** – unity building encourager (Barnabas)
- **Values Keeper** – accountable checkpoint provider (Matthew)
- **Vision Sharer** – able to powerfully communicate vision (Peter)

Two essential questions we must ask:

Where are you powerful? Most of us are usually powerful in two or three of the Body Building Roles:

- Hears the hearts, minds and visions of others (Active Listener)
- Training others, then empowering them to to lead or serve (Equipping Releaser)
- Freeing others to minister and serve (Supporting Releaser)
- Building unity in the group (Team Builder)
- Bringing quality and accountability by setting standards (Values Keeper)

- Sharing the big picture and seeing how people fit in (Vision Sharer)

Who do you need? Each of us ALSO have intrinsic weaknesses, by God's body life design, so that every Christian – will automatically need other believers!

- I need you and you need me, so that together we can more fully be the more complete and more powerful body of Christ in the world
- Each of us has powerful strengths AND intrinsic weakness...so that we will automatically realize our need for others in the body. God did not design us to operate independently.

Consult, the chart below on **“Gift Blending for Body-Building Roles”** to process your particular roles in regards to your spiritual gift blend and potential liabilities. Use the second chart, **“Body-Building Roles in Detail,”** to further discern how you steward your part in the Body of Christ.

How do your Body-Building Roles fit with your Gifts?

Gift Blending for Body-Building Roles		
Primary Body Building Role	Potential Spiritual Gifts	Potential Liabilities
Active Listener Hearing the hearts, minds and visions of others	Exhortation, Pastoring, Wisdom, Discernment, Helps, Mercy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May lose “big picture” view ● May lose momentum on Body Life engagement ● May focus too much on the individual over the team ● May struggle with action focus
Equipping Releaser Training others, then empowering them to lead or serve	Evangelism, Exhortation, Word of Knowledge, Leadership, Pastoring, Prophecy, Teaching, Wisdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May release but not equip ● May equip, then not release ● May push people too fast ● May get tunnel vision
Supporting Releaser Freeing others to minister and serve	Helps, Service, Giving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May hold onto a specific role instead of releasing ● May lack vision for releasing
Team Builder Building unity in the group	Exhortation, Giving, Helps, Service, Mercy, Leadership, Pastoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May get too caught up in internal team dynamics ● May include people without considering consequences ● May lose missional focus ● May lose balance needed between love and truth
Values Keeper Setting standards, bringing quality and accountability	Administration, Discernment, Prophecy, Teaching, Wisdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May tend to over-focus on content or process vs. people ● May become too concerned with excellence or quality ● May fail to include others if they feel integrity is threatened ● May be overly critical of other people’s ideas for change
Vision Sharer Sharing the big picture see how people fit in	Evangelism, Exhortation, Leadership, Prophecy, Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May lose the importance of the details of the vision ● May try to sell or persuade instead of listening to Spirit ● May miss people’s needs ● May drive the vision and lose touch with team members

Body-Building Roles in Detail

Body-Building Roles are how I steward my part in the Body of Christ—my Body Life Roles. It affirms how I “fit” in the larger Body of Christ and play my Kingdom role, my part in missional living and ministry, and live out my Body evangelism role.

Body-Building Role Definition	Body Life Role	Motivation for fulfilling this Body Life Role	Indicators of Role Fulfilled (how others respond)
<p>Active Listener – vigorous watcher Listens for vision and passion residing in Body Life members. Asks before answering. Encourages most powerfully from Alongside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● inquiring ● observing ● discerning ● pursuing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● drawing people out ● hearing their heart ● assisting discovery of personal passion ● valuing their voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● joy of personal discovery ● individual passions and visions surfaced ● sense of release and empowerment ● new sense of value from being heard
<p>Equipping Releaser – training coach to prepare and release others to play their God-designed parts. Enables powerfully from Alongside or Upfront.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● empowering training ● mentoring-coaching ● mending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● freeing people to play their role/part ● enjoying the process of preparing others ● desiring “spiritual grand-children” seeing joy and power manifest in others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● “fit and flourish” in their respective ministries (“own” their personal ministry) ● readied and mobilized into ministry ● move in power
<p>Supporting Releaser – servant supporter Provides the supporting functions releasing others to ministry. Enables most powerfully from Alongside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exhorting ● Helps ● Mercy ● Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● enabling other to play their role/part by providing support services ● enjoying the process of freeing others to minister ● working behind the scenes to help ministry get done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New sense of value by making a contribution ● Power evident as others are released into power roles ● Responsibility and dependability ● Excitement in serving and supporting the vision
<p>Team Builder – community connector Gives priority to the people no matter what the process; unity is always a priority. Leads most effectively from Alongside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● bonding ● including ● relating ● unifying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● bringing people together ● esteeming team members ● strengthening cohesion valuing everyone’s contributions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● camaraderie ● openheartedness / body life caring ● shared process ● unity

Body-Building Role Definition	Body Life Role	Motivation for fulfilling this Body Life Role	Indicators of Role Fulfilled (how others respond)
Values Keeper – systems guide Focuses on quality in the process, establishes guidelines and provides real accountability. Equips most powerfully from Alongside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organizing evaluating maintaining protecting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bringing quality and depth conserving core values encouraging values-based decisions providing wise counsel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biblical integrity accountable systems Word-based standards thorough, wise decisions
Vision Sharer – picture painter to powerfully share vision and values and build ownership for such. Leads most effectively from *Upfront or Alongside.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> imagining inspiring-motivating seeing pointing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> communicating the “big picture” capturing the biblical course enabling others to believe pushing new frontiers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarity of direction excitement in connecting to the vision movement towards desired ends ownership of vision



Reflection and Discussion

How have you seen God empower others through using these Roles in your life?

What Body-Building Roles do you need to complement yours when you consider your part in extending the Kingdom of God?

How can you learn to effectively communicate your Need for these roles?



Take the time to record the lessons you have learned from this section in your “Reflection Journal.”



