

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF REDEPTIVE GIFTS (BEHAVIORAL CHARACTERISTICS) *

GIVER (Principle of Stewardship)

The giver is the most difficult to peg by behavioral characteristics. Givers are legendary for diversity, adaptability, and flexibility. They do not fit easily into nice, neat pigeonholes.

- Has a generational worldview. Is focused on trying to prepare the way for family and others after them.
- Is nurturing. Creates a family environment to foster relationships.
- Has a heart for sharing their faith, but tends not to do it personally. Wants to empower others to do the work of evangelism.
- Very independent. Stands alone. Does not look to other people for help; sometimes not even to God.
- Resists being conned, manipulated, or guilt-tripped into action. Tendency to feel manipulated when others withhold information from them.
- Is able to relate to a wide range of people.
- Desires to empower other people's productivity.
- Desires to keep his/her own life private.
- Is not confrontational by nature.
- Is keen at finding unseen options, solutions, and resources.
- Is opportunistic in seizing an available moment.
- Finds favor in terms of money. Resources flow to him/her.
- Gives well, wisely, not impulsively. Doesn't like to give to the poor, but to other good causes/ministries.
- Tends to be frugal with family members which can cause friction.
- Tends to find bargains, good deals, or discounts before making purchases.
- May tend to see money as a source of security.
- Lives in the present and future. Tends not to learn from the past. Does not like to be confronted on issues that are more than a week old.
- Likes to keep all options open as long as possible. Hesitates to accept absolutes in circumstances, maybe even in the Bible.
- Is a natural networker. Has an ability to bring people together and persuade them to do things.
- Is pragmatic and practical.
- Is a peacemaker. Can work with people who have conflicting views and theologies. Can sustain ideological tension in a group or project. Provides a place of safety. Easily agrees to disagree.
- Is involved in a diversity of projects, interests, and activities. Is multi-focused.
- Births, nurtures, protects new things and ideas. New arises, grows at a greater pace than other gifts.
- Can struggle with ingratitude due to present focus and short memory.
- Does spiritual things, but sometimes not from the right motivation.
- May avoid risk because of a tendency to rely on self rather than God's resources. Faith may seem hard.
- Female givers have a greater sense of false or hidden motives/agendas, whether good or bad.
- All the other redemptive gifts have a counterpart, but the Giver is designed by God to be independent so that they cannot be controlled or manipulated by others.

Major Weaknesses

- INDEPENDENT. Does not need others. May not acknowledge needs to God.
- HYPOCRISY. May appear to do the right things, but may not deeply pursue holiness.
- CONTROL AND MANIPULATION. Desires to control based on fear of the unknown and risk. Tries to manipulate God and people.

Biblical Examples of Giver - Abraham, Jacob, Job, Matthew, Lydia
Abigail (Nabal's wife whom King David later married)

NOTES