

Debbie Lystad:

When I was asked to be part of the Called and Gifted program I was interested because at that time I needed something more in my spiritual life. I was content but felt like there was something missing. Without knowing what Called and Gifted was about I said yes. It surprised me that I said yes without researching or understanding what the program was about. I am usually not receptive to doing something new without knowing what is expected of me. So, I ordered the book Fruitful Discipleship by Sherry Weddell to learn more. The book explained charisms along with the benefits they can have on us as God's children and on our Church. The concept made sense that God would give us these gifts because he loves us and he always provides for us. 2 Corinthians 9:8 Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work. I was now interested and ready to begin this journey.

It was now two months later and time for me to take the inventory to determine what my charisms are. I was nervous, figuring I would not have any charisms being they were given to me at my baptism and that was so long ago. They must have expiration dates and mine would surely be expired by now. Although it turned out that I do have charisms and I have been using them most of my life. Once I had my inventory interview, I started to make the connection on how those charisms have been working in my life. As I am going through the discernment process, I am building my confidence in my understanding of those charisms and how I can make them more fruitful in my life. Which is also producing benefits in growing my personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

I now have a feeling of completeness in my spiritual life and pray that others will have a successful experience as I did. I am excited about helping to guide others in the discovery of their charisms. So, come and learn how you can unwrap your very special gift from God.