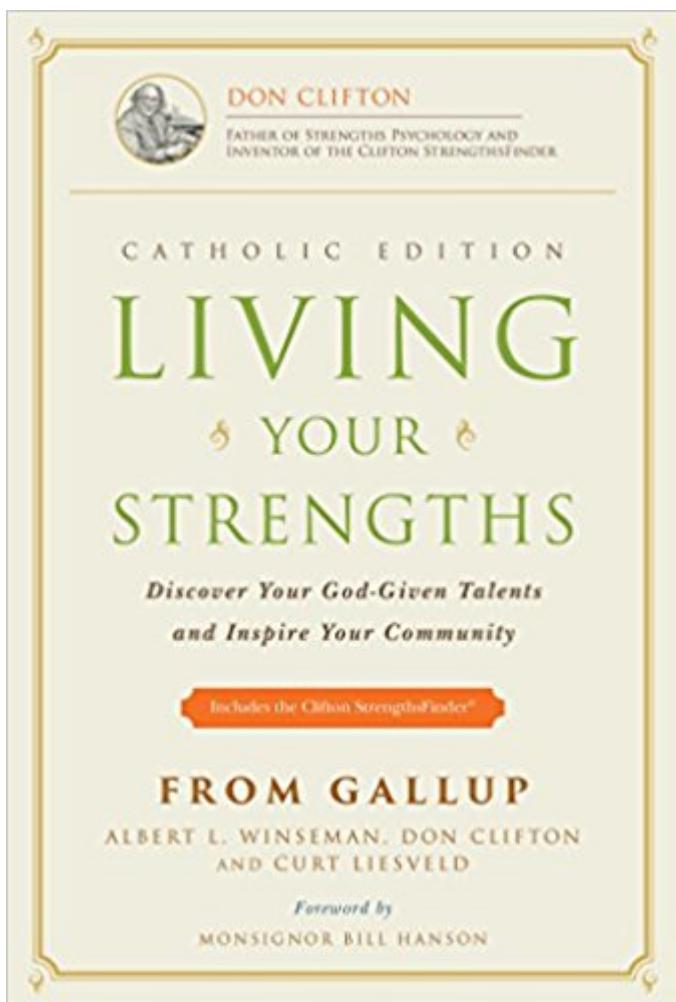


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# Living Your Strengths - Catholic Edition: Discover Your God-Given Talents And Inspire Your Community



## Synopsis

- Grounded in a strengths philosophy already embraced by millions of readers - Personal stories and actionable advice for the spiritually committed, all rooted in a decades of research. - Includes an ID code that gives readers access to StrengthsFinder.com, a personality assessment that has had over 1 million completesEven in a country as religious as the U.S., many people feel disengaged from their faith communities. More than half report that they really don't get the opportunity in their congregation to do what they do best. People just feel disconnected. Â Maybe it's because those faith communities make unwitting missteps: Pastors ask shy people to be Greeters, or recruit innately disorganized people to coordinate church events. Â The problem is simply this: Too many people's talents are going unappreciated. But it doesn't have to be this way. Living Your Strengths shows readers how to use their innate gifts to enrich their faith communities. The book --- written by onetime pastors Albert Winseman and Curt Liesveld, and Donald O. Clifton, co-author of the national bestseller Now, Discover Your Strengths --- shows people how to identify and affirm their talents, and how to use them for growth and service. Most importantly, Living Your Strengths helps people discover their true calling. Â The book includes an ID code that gives readers access to StrengthsFinder.com, a personality assessment that reveals user's top 5 talent themes. Spiritual enrichment begins with turning talents into strengths. Living Your Strengths is an indispensable guide to help readers to just that.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Al Winseman is Global Practice Leader for Faith-Based Organizations for The Gallup Organization. Since joining Gallup in 2000 to develop this new practice area, Winseman has led research into the characteristics of effective congregations. Prior to joining Gallup, Winseman served as a pastor in the United Methodist Church for 15 years. He lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, with his wife, Jane, and their two daughters, Julie and Kaleigh. Donald O. Clifton, Ph.D., (1924-2003) was past chairman of The Gallup Organization and coauthor of the national bestseller Now, Discover Your Strengths and other books. He was named the Grandfather of Positive Psychology and the Father of Strengths Psychology by the American Psychological Association. He is survived by his wife Shirley, four children, and nine grandchildren. Curt Liesveld (1951-2015) served as a Learning and Development Senior Consultant at Gallup. After joining the company in 1999, he led leadership and management seminars for many of Gallup's clients in the corporate, education, church and government sectors. Prior to joining Gallup, he was a church leader and pastor in the Reformed Church in America for 23 years.

I must begin the review by stating that the one star review is not for the book's content but for its design. My copy arrived this morning with the activation code for the online assessment already used! Someone purchased the book, scratched off the coupon to access code for online portion, and then returned the book. I'm glad I purchased the Catholic edition - LOL An update: the vendor responded to my review and sent me a brand new copy of this book at no charge. Thank you! Changing my star review to a more neutral rating until I read/use the assessment.

I liked the book by itself - actually it was a book for a friend because I have enjoyed my own copy - The problem was - It was suppose to be a NEW book - but when it came it was USED and the code was used - so it was of no value to the person it was suppose to help - I tried to return it but it came from an individual and when I went back to or Smiles it did not even show that I had ordered it - even though I had received a confirmation of my order - I do not know what happened in between but I was misled - Since the price was not that much I decided that I would just donate the book to the Good Will and hope someone else had the opportunity to use the information without the codes - Otherwise - I have been happy with my purchases through - Merrianne Miller

Very good book; discusses what is often overlooked in one's career -- defining "who they are". What their character is. Not what they've been taught -- such as carpentry, computer programming, finances, auto repair, etc. But what their basic character strengths are. We use it in a local job

support networking group, to help folks figure out what they should really be looking for in a job. But it's an excellent resource for everyone, in any situation. If someone were to ask you point-blank, could you tell them your 5 greatest characteristic strengths?

This book details the specific elements and behaviors of several personality types. It is written in an easy to read format, headings for the different personality types are clear. The types are based on positive psychology. The reader is given options to maximize ones own talents and suggestions on how to approach other personality types in conflict resolution. This is not a "read through" type of book. It is the type of book that needs to be read, then portions thought about and applied to ones behavior. The result is an increased effectiveness in dealing with others and minimizing ones own annoying or intimidating behavior in interpersonal communication. My husband and I each bought a book and took the questionnaire, the results were accurate and excellent revelation and discussion points for how we approached situations differently with our preferred strategies.

Well I'm not sure if it was written in the book description or not, but the web-based assessment that this book is tied to, requires the purchase of a NEW book. Once the code is used to register at the website it is void, and codes cannot be purchased independently. Anyone buying this book used is not getting the complete purchase and unless you purchase another product allowing you access, a used book is relatively uninspired. Oh well, lesson learned.

Take the test! Be sure and have your best friend, or your spouse take that test.....it will be an Eye Opener to compare how you complement each other, or where you need to have patience and/or humility!

I happened on this book by accident. I had been reading a number of leadership/management books, which all referred to First, Break All the Rules: What the World's Greatest Managers Do Differently. I had never heard of the book. I was also very reluctant to buy the book. The title just did not sit right with me. It sounded like a course in insubordination, rebelliousness or something. Nevertheless, my curiosity got the best of me. I broke down. The book was excellent. So were the number of books published in its wake: StrengthsFinder 2.0, Now, Discover Your Strengths, Go Put Your Strengths to Work: 6 Powerful Steps to Achieve Outstanding Performance, and StandOut: The Groundbreaking New Strengths Assessment from the Leader of the Strengths Revolution (which I have not yet read, but I'm sure comes from the same mold). It talked about the

four keys of great managers: selecting people for talents or "recurring patterns of behavior;" defining the right outcomes by turning talents into performance; focusing on strengths and not on weaknesses; and, finding the right fit to give people the greatest chance for success. These conclusions and others were derived from the Gallup Organization analyzing data collected over 25 years from interviews of 80,000 managers and 1,000,000 staff members from 400 companies. The authors' emphasis on strengths, led me to take the Clifton Strengthfinders test. To my surprise, when printing out the results, it listed my 5 top strengths. It briefly, but accurately described "me!" I printed out copies and gave them to people who knew me well. I asked them what came to mind when reading it. They all said it described me, and how I work, and what makes me tick, and what I do best. Later, I happened onto Living Your Strengths - Discover Your God-given Talents And Inspire Your Community. It drew from all the books that I had previously read on this subject. Basically, it had the same approach, but this book was particularly focused on helping people in Church communities to discover their own talents, based on the Clifton Strengthfinders test and all of the prior Gallup research, and put them to use. I have been using this book ever since. Like and with the others, it had quickly taught me to focus on my strengths and find success through them, ignoring my weaknesses which were not worth the time and effort to even try to change. It also gave me a tool to give to others to help them to do the same, to look at life through a different perspective, to find success where they may not have sought it previously, and to become a valuable member to their community and society. This particular version has been geared to the Catholic Church community, incorporating things that would be peculiarly recognized or appreciated by them. There is also a more generic version available: Living Your Strengths: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community. N.B. There is a sort of mystery behind this whole, let's say, movement that has appeared as followers of these books on "strengths" and their approach. I believe it stays as mystery until one actually takes the Clifton Strengthfinders test themselves. There is a code in each new book to allow one to do so (it may already be used in most used books). In fact the book specifically stops you at one point and directs you to take it, after which, I believe is followed by personal surprise over its exactness. I do not think you will be disappointed.

Excellent book. Took me on the road to true self discovery.

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Living Your Strengths - Catholic Edition: Discover Your God-Given Talents and Inspire Your Community Strengths Quest: Discover and Develop Your Strengths in Academics, Career, and

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