

Seven Gifts of Grace

Discipleship is a Relationship

1. With God
2. With Family
3. With the Church
4. With the Lost

Suggested Memory Verses
Romans 12:3-8

Purpose: To help a person understand what their gift(s) is and how to put it to use for the Lord.

A. Read each of the following three passages. Based on your reading, list the gifts found in each place, the purpose for the gifts, and the giver of the gifts.

Passage	Gift List	Purpose of Gifts	Giver of Gifts
1 Corinthians 12:4-11 "Miraculous Gifts"			
Ephesians 4:7-13 "Equipping Gifts"			
Romans 12:3-8 "Enduring Gifts"			

(7 Gifts of Grace Continued)

B. Taking a closer look at the “Enduring Gifts” found in Romans 12:3-8

1. Prophesying

- a) definition: to preach, or forth-tell; to speak forth the Word with boldness
- b) objective: exhort saints, convince unbelievers, instruct others
- c) need: see a positive response to his/her message, motivation
- d) dangers/weaknesses: more concern for the task than the people, legalistic
- e) basic message: GOD SAVES
- f) Scriptural example: John the Baptist (Matthew 3)
He preached a message of Repentance with boldness, always emphasizing that the Savior was coming. He did not predict His coming. He preached about it.

2. Serving/Ministering

- a) definition: to assist another
- b) objective: carry out tasks conceived by others, care for needs
- c) need: to be honored and appreciated
- d) dangers/weaknesses: overburdened, burn out
- e) basic message: GOD SERVES
- f) Scriptural example: Tabitha - aka Dorcas (Acts 9:36)

3. Teaching

- a) definition: to instruct so that others can understand
- b) objective: build knowledge of Scriptures in others
- c) need: others to accept and understand the teaching
- d) dangers/weaknesses: pride, critical of people with opposing views, more concerned with lesson than people
- e) basic message: GOD REVEALS
- f) Scriptural example: Aquila & Priscilla (Acts 18:24-26)

4. Encouraging/Exhorting

- a) definition: to uplift with truth
- b) objective: motivate personal growth in others
- c) need: see growth and consistency in others
- d) dangers/weaknesses: naïve
- e) basic message: GOD LOVES
- f) Scriptural example: Barnabas (Acts 4:36-37; 9:26-27)

5. Giving

- a) definition: provide for others
- b) objective: make it possible for others to carry out ministry
- c) need: appreciation
- d) dangers/weaknesses: motivated by promoting self
- e) basic message: GOD PROVIDES
- f) Scriptural example: Macedonians (2 Corinthians 8:1-2)

(7 Gifts of Grace Continued)

6. Leadership

- a) definition: organize and unify work, get the most out of the workers and for the workers
- b) objective: give direction to work
- c) need: freedom to lead coupled with responsibility and authority in areas of leadership
- d) dangers/weaknesses: proud, no room for ideas of others
- e) basic message: GOD LEADS
- f) Scriptural example: Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, Exodus 18

7. Showing Mercy

- a) definition: compassionate, thinking the best, recognizing potential
- b) objective: comfort and help the hurting, abandoned, and fallen away
- c) need: to be understood
- d) dangers/weaknesses: not allowing people to receive discipline they need to grow
- e) basic message: GOD CARES
- f) Scriptural example: Joseph with his brothers (Genesis 37 & 45),
the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)

C. Why Variety of Gifts

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
2. Romans 12:3-5
3. Why are there a variety of gifts according to these passages?
4. Is one gift more valuable to God or the Church than any of the other gifts? (explain your answer)
5. Why is it a mistake to confuse the value of your gift with the function of your gift?

6. When the body of Christ functions as a unit and displays this variety of gifts, she offers a great picture of who God is. God Saves, Serves, Reveals, Loves, Provides, Leads, and Cares.

D. What is my gift? How do I use it to serve the body?

1. Ask yourself three questions when facing a decision
 - a. Do I have the opportunity?
 - b. Do I have the ability?
 - c. Do I have the desire?
2. Ask God to reveal to you the gift He has given to you. (James 1:5) As you study Scripture and mature, it will become more obvious.
3. Think about what you would most likely spend a large sum of money on if you were given the "Church" credit card. (example: curriculum and study books? Food pantry? Missions?)
Matthew 6:21

(7 Gifts of Grace Continued)

4. Start using your gift with your family. How can you enhance your family life by using your spiritual gift(s)? List some specific examples. (Still not sure about what your spiritual gift is? Come up with one example for each gift, noting how it could enhance your family life if used.)

a) Prophesying:

b) Serving:

c) Teaching:

d) Encouraging:

e) Giving:

f) Leadership:

g) Showing Mercy:

E) Conclusion

1. Is it important to understand what your spiritual gift is? Why or why not?
2. Is it important to use your spiritual gift for the body of Christ (Church)? Why or why not?
3. Is it important to understand what spiritual gifts other members of the Body possess? Why or why not?
4. Every Christian has been given at least one gift from the list of enduring gifts found in Romans 12:3-8. Why do you think so many gifts go unused in the Church and in the home?