Disciple 201 - Chp 08

Spiritual Gifts

Opening prayer and comments on insights from last session.

1 Corinthians 12: 7 – 11, Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. 8To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in various tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who apportions them to each one as He determines.

The manifestations of the Spirit are a definitive list. There is typically one or two given as a combination depending on the type of ministry God is starting you out with. I will call these gifts of the Spirit. As you grow in the Lord and he adds to you the ways you are able to serve him, he can add these different gifts as well. There are 2 different components to gifting for ministry. One is the type of expression of the Spirit which manifests through us, The second is the ministry authority giving you ability to do the work of the Spirit in a certain area. For example, if God's calling is to be a Pastor and you made a strong commitment in walking with the Lord, he will start you with strong gifting in Wisdom with discernment as well as some knowledge of his concepts. The ministry authority is a mantle preparing you for compassion and a heart for helping people overcome. He will put you in the Office of the Pastor when he is finished preparing you. You can add on areas of ministry service which I call secondary mantles.

1 Corinthians 12: 28 – 30, And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, and those with gifts of healing, helping, administration, and various tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But eagerly desire the greater gifts.

Take time as a group to pray now that the Lord will reveal himself and his ministry for you clearly. Comment on how you feel you might increase your gifting and ability to serve the Lord. Briefly pray anything else that is needed for each other.

The Lord starts you small and builds you and adds to you over time. We have to be open to what he wants to add. Maybe it's a direction you have not considered. God will take us in a direction that will build qualities in us as a blessing we can't see. We will now use an example to pray for something as a secondary mantle that those growing in maturity need to have. We will pray for each to have a mantle for intercessory prayer.

You must have a desire to spend time in prayer but doesn't need to be long periods of time. You may pray as a group for this; Pray that you will have an increased heart for prayer, conviction for the needs of people and the building of the corporate Body of Christ for the Lord. Pray also that you will have clear revelation of those things the Lord wants you to pray for and the gift of prophecy for that revelation to come. You may pray through the Leaders Prayer Guide again and then close in prayer.