



CITY CHAPEL
SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

MINISTRY SCHOOL
Lesson 4 – Ministry Gifts

INTRODUCTION

In lesson three, we began the introduction to ministry gifts. We have now set the stage to begin to understand the context and placement of real ministry from lessons one and two. We know that we are in the world but not of the world even though we are human beings. By becoming Christians, we have been translated into a matrix called the Kingdom of God.

So, in alphabetical order, the mentioned gifts of ministry in the NT are as follows:

Administration

Those who exhibit this gift have a grace to handle multi-layered information, tasks, and responsibilities without cracking under pressure. The Greek word for this talent is *kubernesis* which indicates the ability to steer, rule or oversee or govern. The ability to help or support or lead people towards a destination or goal.

One of the synonyms linked to this word is government. Administration is the God given ability and Grace to organize multi-layered tasks and groups of people to fulfil various projects and tasks.

Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Corinthians 12:28

Apostleship

The role of the first set of Apostles in the time of Jesus and the beginning of the Church is unparalleled. There are sections of the modern and historic church who believe that this gift has ceased. They are right and wrong at the same time. In terms of being the foundation of the Church and the writing of scripture, that element has ceased. However, the essence of the Gift to establish new frontiers and churches for the Kingdom, that continues until today.

The logo features a red line-art illustration of a church building with a steeple and a bell tower, positioned above the text.

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Apostles truly called by God and not by title, have the anointing to birth new communities of believers, establish them on the foundation of Christ, set up structures for training and appoint leaders over these new churches.

Apostles are like the architects and builders of the church, paying with great sacrifice towards the birth and wellbeing of local churches. The gift of apostleship is the divine strength or ability to pioneer new churches and ministries through planting, overseeing, and training.

Acts 15:22-35; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Galatians 2:7-10; Ephesians 4:11-14

Discernment

Usually described as discerning of spirits, this gift enables the ability to differentiate between good and evil, right and wrong and also the intent of the heart of men. It is like a divine x-ray or scanning equipment that deciphers situations and people. Discernment as is the divine enablement to spiritually know what is false from what is true and also the spiritual forces at work in any situation.

Discerning of spirits is available to all believers and can be utilised for practical and spiritual purposes. A Mother or Father being able to pick up through prayer the forces at work around new friends of their son or daughter. The ability to decipher the agenda of the enemy during a boardroom meeting. Discernment is a very useful tool in the marketplace as the Believer engages with the world. Its like being spiritually 'street wise' and having your wits about you as you inter act with all sorts of people and circumstances..

Matthew 9:4, Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18, 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6



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Gift of Evangelism

The word Evangelism has been used to describe a chore that all Believers are to DO. This is the general perception of many in the modern church.

However, Christians are called to BE Light and not try to do the act of 'trying' to woo the world to Christ. Those who have the Gift of Evangelism have a special grace to proclaim the message and ignite or inspire the wider Body of Christ towards spreading the message. All Believers are called to reach the lost and spread the message.

However, there are those who are specially endowed with this Gift that inspires other Believers and produces an extra edge in reaching the World for Christ. Those with the Gift train the Church and ignite a fresh focus and enthusiasm on reaching non-Christians.

Timothy 4:5, Acts 8:5-6, 8:26-40, 14:21, 21:8; Ephesians 4:11-14

Exhortation

This is a gift of encouragement and edification through the ability to share the message of Christ and the blessedness of what God has done for Believers. The Greek meaning is to beseech, to strengthen, to encourage and to exhort. Christians are uplifted, comforted, rebuked and provoked into action through exhortation.

Titus 2:11-15, Titus 1:9, Acts 14:22; Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 4:13; Hebrews 10:24-25

Faith

There is saving Faith and then there is the gift of faith. Some Believers have that extra element of faith and confidence in God that distinguishes them and helps the Body of Christ to be built up and encouraged by their example. Hebrew 11 is a chapter dedicated to believers in the Old and New Testament that have walked in that gift of Faith. This gift is available to all believers and can be unleashed through the unction of the Holy Spirit as He deems necessary at the time. When faced with impossible situations,



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this gift comes alive. A good example is Peter and John at the Gate Beautiful when they were used by the Spirit to heal the lame beggar.
Acts 3:1-10, Acts 11:22-24; Romans 4:18-21; 1 Corinthians 12:9; Hebrews 11

Giving

The Lord has appointed some special Believers with the ability to give with sincerity, generosity and without hypocrisy. These Christians usually can be seen fund raising for the church, generating income, and encouraging others to give through their lifestyle. They are generally given to hospitality, excellent stewards and many times will structure their lives so that more can be given to the church for the spread of the Gospel and care for the Saints.

Giving is not a chore to them but a source of great joy. This gift really encourages the church and sends a message that God provides for His people through this ministry.

Acts 4:36-37, Mark 14:3-9, Acts 2:42, 2 Corinthians 9:5-7

Healing

All Believers are called to walk in Healing as part of the outflow of the Spirit of Christ in every Christian. The Gift of Healing which in Greek is literally "Gifts of Healings" is a very diverse gift. The Gift is related closely with the working of miracles and faith but is distinct in that it focuses on supernatural healing. Those who walk in this gift have a deep compassion for the sick that flows from the heart of God. They have a burden for the spiritual state of the sick and their restoration to bring glory to God. 'The gift of healing is the divine strength or ability to act as an intermediary in faith, prayer, and by the laying-on of hands for the healing of physical, mental and spiritual sickness.

Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28



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Ministry of Helps

This is a vast ranging area of gift application where many would insert things like serving tables, food distribution, deacons, music ministry, media, church maintenance, children's ministry, etc.

The basic idea is of SERVICE where the Saints and their welfare and the community are supported and served.

It refers to any act of service done in genuine love for the edification of the church community.

God enables special Believers with a selfless attitude of service to the wider body of Christ so that there are no gaps in the community and everyone is cared for, supported so that the mission of reaching the world is unhindered. One prime example is the situation that arose in Acts 6:1-7.

There was a gap in the service of meals to the widows in the church community. This threatened to become a distraction until the Spirit of God led the Leaders with the support of the whole community to choose seven 'Helpers' to oversee the food distribution. The seven included Stephen the Martyr. Their ministry and service sorted the issue resulting in multiplication of new believers and the spreading of the Gospel.

Acts 6:1-7, Acts 9:36; Romans 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 12:28

Hospitality

The ability to host and serve people leaving them feeling extremely honoured and dignified is called the gift of Hospitality. The whole spirit of God preparing a place for us to come home to in Heaven is the same spirit embedded within hospitality.

The essence of welcoming others, feeding and caring for them irrespective of their status but on the basis of them being another human being is the excellent gift of hospitality. When you experience this gift in operation, you are left feeling very dignified and elevated. There are those who are NOT believers that have this talent. In the world, the whole industry of tourism, travel and hotels and restaurants are based on this talent. The main



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difference between the world and the Kingdom is that money is not the currency that drives this genuine gift.

Acts 16:14-15; Genesis 19:3, 2Kings 4:8, Romans 12:13, Hebrews 13:1-2; 1 Peter 4:9

Interpretation

The gift of interpretation of tongues is closely related to the gift of tongues as both are supernatural enablement by the Spirit in the area of revelation and utterance. Paul encourages the person with the gift of tongues to go on to interpret so that the whole church can be edified.

This gift builds up the entire congregation as it reveals the essence and meaning of the message spoken which glorifies God and edifies the hearers. The objective is to enable believers love God more deeply and serve gracefully by the Spirit.

1Corinthians 14:5, 1Corinthians 12:30, 1Corinthians 14:12-13,26-28

Word of Knowledge

This gift is divine knowledge about things that could not have been possible by any other means. This ability is closely related to the prophetic office but is also available to any Christian that walks closely with the Spirit of God. Ananias was given a Word of Knowledge concerning Saul who became Paul. He could not have known by any other means that Saul was staying at the House of Judas on a street called Straight! When in operation, Believers are deeply touched because 'secrets' about their lives are revealed in a very sensitive and loving way that confirms to them that God sees everything and cares for them.

Acts 9:11, Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:8; Colossians 2:2-3



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Leadership

The gift of leadership is given by God to enable certain Believers to oversee, shepherd and care for others. It can be linked with the Gift of Administration and any of the other 'fivefold' ministry offices. Some believe that the gift mentioned in Romans 12:8 is placed between giving and mercy intentionally to connote care for others. Jesus Christ our Lord is called the Chief Shepherd and therefore those called to lead will indeed carry His nature and characteristics of leadership.

Matthew 20:25-28, Romans 12:8; 1 Timothy 3:1-13, 5:17; Hebrews 13:17

Mercy

This is a gift very close to the heart of God. The Greek word is *eleeo* and connotes merciful compassion and patience towards the afflicted and those suffering from trials, sickness or challenging situations. Those gifted with Mercy feel deeply for those going through crisis. They are able to walk the journey or go the distance with the afflicted. These are the people who visit the hospitalised every day or every week until the sick is out or healed. These are truly precious Saints that do not need acknowledgement, rewards or publicity of any kind to care for people.

Matthew 25:35-36, Matthew 9:35-36; Mark 9:41; Romans 12:8; 1 Thess. 5:14

Miracles

This gift like the that of Healings is plural and translates Workings of Powers. The gift is diverse in its expression and manifestation. Like we see in various parts of scripture from Joshua stopping the sun, to Moses opening the Red Sea unto Jesus multiplication of fish, the application of the gift of miracles is very diverse.

In the New Testament, Stephen, Paul, Peter, The Apostles and Jesus all performed miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit. The gift of miracles is the divine strength or ability to alter the natural outcomes of life in a supernatural way through prayer, faith, and divine direction.



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Acts 2:43, Acts 3:1-10, Acts 5:1-16, Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12, 20:7-12; Romans 15:18-19; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 28

Pastor/Shepherd

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the divine strength or ability to care for the personal needs of others by nurturing and mending life issues. It is closely related to the gift of leadership and teaching. They are anointed and called to nurture the Lord's Sheep. Jesus instructed Peter to feed His Sheep. The people belong to the Lord and Shepherds take temporary responsibility for these souls. Like Parents, sometimes taking responsibility and ownership lines become blurred. The primary aim of the Shepherd is to reproduce Christ in each soul they are responsible for.

Books of Timothy and Titus, John 10:1-18; Ephesians 4:11-14; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Peter 5:1-3

Prophecy

This perhaps the most popular and sometimes the most misunderstood gift. The ability to become the 'mouthpiece' of God either temporarily or permanently is a very attractive and powerful gift. The gift of prophecy is the divine strength or ability to communicate God's truth and heart in a way that calls people to a right relationship with God.

The Holy Spirit uses the gift of prophecy as a sign to both Believers and Unbelievers that God is real, knows everything and is amongst His people. The ability to predict the future and use the other gifts of revelation and utterance makes Prophets highly sought after, abused and misused.

Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Corinthians 14:1-4; 1 Thessalonians 1:5

Service

The gift of serving is the same thing as the ministry of Helps which we have already mentioned. It is the divine strength or ability to do small or great tasks in working for the overall good of the body of Christ.

Acts 6:1-7; Romans 12:7; Galatians 6:10; 1 Timothy 1:16-18; Titus 3:14



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Teaching

This is the main source of nurturing, training, and equipping the Saints. In the Judgement, Teachers will be judged more strictly as they carry the responsibility of what the Saints were taught and doctrine. Teachers have been entrusted with the great responsibility of dissecting the Word of God accurately, communicating the Word to Believers and the daily application of God's Word. Those with the gift are usually Leaders of Christian communities or Shepherds. They spend long lengths of time studying, memorising, analysing the Bible with the desire to know it more, love God deeper and making the heart of God through His Word known to the Believers. They are called to stand against error and wrong doctrine by living out the Word and dissecting the Bible accurately so that the Church is sounding built up by good Doctrine.

The gift of teaching is the divine strength or ability to study and learn from the Scriptures primarily to bring understanding and depth to other Christians.

Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 4:11-14

Tongues (and Interpretation)

The gift of tongues is the divine strength or ability to pray in a heavenly language to encourage your spirit and to commune with God. The gift of tongues can also be a powerful tool to convince a non-believer that God is real when they hear a non-native speak their language accurately with a clear message.

A classic example of this occurred on one of my excursions to Israel with some Black Students in the School of Ministry. We had two Zionist Jews who were our guide and driver. We were on top of Mount Carmel one of the tourist sites when the group prayed for rain over Tel Aviv and Israel who hadn't seen rain in many months and the farming and horticulture industry was being affected. As we worshipped and prayed in tongues, one of the French speaking students breaks out in tongues and starts speaking perfect



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Hebrew! The guide Ami and his partner Benjamin hear the exaltation of God from a Congolese French speaking Black man wh has never been anywhere near a Jew before. It was a powerful moment which we seized to present the Gospel to both of them!

Acts 2:1-13; 1 Corinthians 12:10, 14:1-14

Word of Wisdom

The gift of wisdom is closely related to the prophetic and word of knowledge so that the information revealed is applied properly, with Grace and divine application. The word of wisdom also comes in tricky situations which need God's insight and thoughts on the matter. It came to Solomon when two women claimed to have ownership of a Baby and Solomon applied the gift of wisdom to discern the truth in that matter. The other classic case was in the life of Jesus Christ when the religious leaders wanted to catch him out by asking if the Jews should pay taxes to Caesar. He applied the gift of wisdom in His answer and everyone was amazed at His answer.

1 Kings 3:16-28, Mark 12:17, Acts 6:3,10; 1 Corinthians 2:6-13, 12:8

Take the Gifts Test

Homework and Bible Reading habit.