

The Introduction to Our Gifts

- I. Introduction to the study of our Gifts - Redemptive - Ministry - Manifestation
 - A. When we really get to know Jesus, we really get to know ourselves.
 1. What do you think this means? Evaluate this statement.
 2. Jesus was tested while on earth. “He learned obedience through the things he suffered.” Tests we go through in our lives everyday show us how much or how little we are like Jesus.
 - B. We are called to be ourselves. We are unique.
 1. You are uniquely you. - Psalms 139:13-15
 2. You are uniquely you for a purpose. Nobody can take your place in your world. - Ephesians 2:10
 3. You are uniquely crafted for your place and time in history
 4. You are uniquely gifted and needed by those around you. -
 - a. 1 Peter 4:10-11
 - b. Romans 12:4-5
 - c. 1 Corinthians 12:12(Read 12:12-25)
 - C. The Gifts listed in Scripture - There are three places in scripture where series or sets of gifts to us are listed. In this four week Growth Group, study we will look at the gifts listed in Romans 12:6-8. Sometimes called the Redemptive Gifts or Motivational Gifts. The other giftings may be covered in another Growth Group.
 1. The Seven Redemptive Gifts. We refer to these as the motivational gifts or redemptive gifts. - Romans 12:6-8 [NASB] (6) Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if **prophecy**, according to the proportion of his faith; (7) if **service**, in his serving; or he who **teaches**, in his teaching; (8) or he who **exhorts**, in his exhortation; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who shows **mercy**, with cheerfulness.
 2. The Gifts of the Five Fold Ministry to the Church - Government Gifts - Ephesians 4:11-13 [NASB] And He gave some as **apostles**, and some as **prophets**, and some as **evangelists**, and some as **pastors** and **teachers**, (12) for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; (13) until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.
 3. The nine Manifestation Gifts of the Spirit - 1 Corinthians 12:7-11 [NASB] But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (8) For to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, and to another **the word of knowledge** according to the same Spirit; (9) to another **faith** by the same Spirit, and to another **gifts of healing** by the one Spirit, (10) and to another the **effecting of miracles**, and to another **prophecy**, and to another the **distinguishing of spirits**, to another **various kinds of tongues**, and to another the **interpretation of tongues**. (11) But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.
 - D. Good and godly people disagree about which of these lists of gifts are still active in the church today. The seven redemptive or motivational gifts were all reflected in Jesus life.

Since we are created in his image, God intends that everyone should reflect those seven gifts in various levels. We are all born with one of these seven as a dominant part of our personality or motivation. You will see what I mean as we look at each one.

II. Why Study the Motivational Gifts?

- A. What we will discover is why people we know, family members, friends, acquaintances and even ourselves act as we do.
 - 1. Why do I do some things well and don't like to do others
 - 2. Learning about these gifts can help you live in your birthright.
 - 3. Actually your birthright is that sense of "This is who I am."
- B. Understanding them can help us improve relationships.
 - 1. Learning the strengths and weaknesses of each motivational gift helps us understand the ways God has designed his people to flow and function as "one body."
 - 2. This not only applies to church
 - a. To our everyday lives
 - b. To our marriages
 - c. When two people marry, they bring their own distinctive gifts to the marriage
 - d. When a couple understands the seven motivational gifts it is easier to adapt to situations that come up.
 - e. A couple can let their gifts compliment each other.
 - f. Instead of expecting their partner to think and act like them.
 - 3. Understand these motivational gifts is also beneficial in the parenting of children
 - a. Each gift has natural strengths and weaknesses
 - b. Each particular gift has specific challenges in parenting.
 - 4. For example a person gifted toward the servant
 - a. They desire to meet needs
 - b. Especially when it comes to their children
 - c. However, the servant will often serve their children in excessive ways
 - d. Causing them to grow up with unrealistic expectations about how much employers, friends and others around them will meet their needs.
 - e. The servant must realize their calling is to empower and release, not to enable.
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- C. Understanding the redemptive / motivational gifts is beneficial to all types of relationships.
- D. A word of caution
 - 1. Motivational gifts are not to be used as an excuse
 - 2. Jesus was all seven (7) of the gifts
 - a. The more we mature spiritually
 - b. The more we look like Jesus in all areas of our lives.
 - 3. The person motivated as a prophet has a great capacity for faith.
 - a. Other people have to work at it
 - b. The mercy person has a great capacity for compassion and doesn't have to work at it
 - c. It is wrong for the person motivated with the gift of prophet to say, Compassion isn't my thing because I'm a prophet.
 - d. We are all called to live the fruit of the Spirit.

e. Galatians 5:22-23 show us the true character of Jesus.

III. Motivational Gifts relate to other Scriptures

A. Law of First Mentions

1. Not an actual law in the Bible
2. More of a principle
3. Something students of the Bible have realized throughout the scriptures
4. The order in which things are mentioned is important
5. It sometimes relates to the order of other things

B. Each of the Motivational Gifts relates to, or parallels, other things in the Scriptures

1. All are sevens (7's)
2. The order of creation in Genesis
3. The order of the listing of the seven pieces furniture in the Tabernacle
4. The seven compound names of God
5. Last seven sayings of Jesus from the cross
6. Letters to seven churches in Revelation

C. We will relate each of these to the gifts as we study these gifts.