

SPIRITUAL GIFTS
Class #21 – Sunday AM2 JULY 22, 2007

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Hebrews 4:12 For the Word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword.

(In review)

POD #1: Service is a spiritual gift, whereas deacon is not. **Rom. 12:7; cf. 1 Tim. 3:8-13**

POD #2: Deacon is an office (*official capacity*) in the local church filled by males only. **1 Tim. 3:8-10**

διάκονος – Deacon

διακονέω – “Serving as deacons” from 1 Tim. 3:8

διακονία – “Service” from Rom 12:7

- A. Paul thanked the Lord who put him into service [**διακονία**] with the spiritual gift of apostle. **1 Tim 1:12**
- B. Regarding men who are being considered to serve as deacons, **1 Tim 3:10** states: “**These men must also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons [διακονέω] if they are beyond reproach.**”

POD #3: The spiritual gift of service is sovereignly bestowed by God the Holy Spirit to both male and female alike. **1 Cor. 12:7; cf. Rom 16:1-2**

Romans 16:1-2 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a **servant** [**διάκονος**] of the church which is at Cenchrea; ² that you receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you; for she herself has also been a helper of many, and of myself as well.

POD #4: The spiritual gift is possessed by both male and female, yet females are not permitted to serve in an official capacity as deacons.

The office of deacon is given the pastor’s authority to officiate matters in the local church, whereas the female does not have that authority. 1 Cor. 14:34-35; 1 Tim 2:11-14

1 Corinthians 14:34 The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. ³⁵ If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.

1 Timothy 2:11-14 A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. ¹² But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. ¹³ For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. ¹⁴ And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

Gifts & Activities Overlapped				
	56-57 AD Rom. 12:7-8	56 AD 1 Cor. 12:28	60-62 AD Eph. 4:11	64 AD 1 Pt. 4:11
1.	service			servicing
2.	teaching	teachers		speaking
3.	exhorting encouraging			speaking
4.	giving			servicing
5.	leading - caring			servicing
6.	mercy			servicing
7.		helps		servicing
8.		administrations		servicing
9.			evangelist	speaking
10.			shepherd-teacher	speaking

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POD #5: A male with the gift of service is a potential candidate for the office of deacon.

POD #6: The spiritual gift of service oftentimes requires help. **Rom 16:1-2**

Helper – προστάτις – **PROSTATIS** – “Helper or patroness”

POD #7: An individual with the gift of service will be led from within as he assembles – to facilitate the fellowship and function of the local church and the communication of the word of God.

General Observation throughout the study on spiritual gifts: God places a priority on the communication of His Word and the spiritual gifts are designed to facilitate the preparation and serving of that Word – *the spiritual meal*.

Acts 6:1-Now at this time while the disciples were increasing *in number*, a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic Jews against the **native Hebrews**, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving (**διακονία**) *of food*.

→ Ἑλληνιστῆς - **HELLENISTES** - A descendent of Abraham. Physical Jews who had been Hellenized by the Greeks; they spoke Greek.

Ἑβραῖος - **HEBRAIOS** – Native Hebrews. Spoke Aramaic and often Greek also. ←

γογγυσμός - **GONGUSMOS** – “To murmur, complain, or whisper about”

καθημερινῆ - **KATHEMERINE** – “Daily”

² So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples [**METHETES** – “Students”] and said, “It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve [**διακονέω**] tables [**τράπεζα**].

vs. 2 -*Correctly translated* - So the twelve **Apostles** summoned the crowd of **students** and said. . .

τράπεζα – **TRAPEZA** – “Table”

Luke 16:21 – **TRAPEZA** – “Table” that the crumbs would fall from; the Master’s table.

“A buffet table or serving table”

Matt 21:12 “Table” of the money changers; “table” at which business is conducted.

➤ “Tables” in **Acts 6:2** was one that would distribute an allotment to widows.

³ “Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. ⁴ “But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

Observe from **vs. 2** – “. . . it is not desirable [**ἀρεστός** – **ARESTOS** – “Pleasing”] for those gifted to communicate the infallible word of God to be serving or administrating affairs of the church.

That’s not the communicator’s gift - they did it for awhile but it hindered the execution of their gift.

Look what happened when people stepped up to the plate to serve.

⁴ “But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

The result -

⁷ The word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Observation: God places a priority on the communication of His Word which the spiritual gift of SERVICE and other auxiliary gifts are designed to facilitate.

POD: It is pleasing to God when spiritual gifts begin to function in a coordinated effort to facilitate the preparation and serving of spiritual food by a gifted communicator.

The gift of service will refresh or encourage the gifted communicator.

2 Tim 1:16-18 The Lord grant mercy to the house of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains; ¹⁷ but when he was in Rome, he eagerly searched for me and found me-- ¹⁸ the Lord grant to him to find mercy from the Lord on that day--and you know very well what **services** [**διακονέω**] he rendered at Ephesus.

Phil 2:25-27 But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need;

λειτουργία – **LEITOURGIA** – “service by an individual for the state”

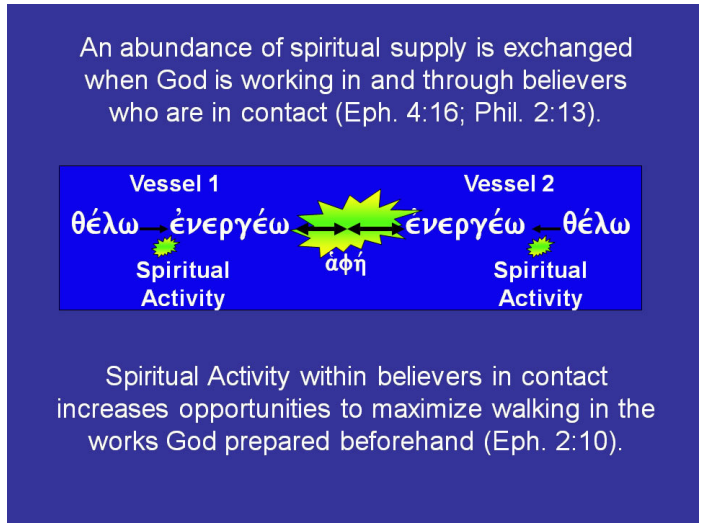
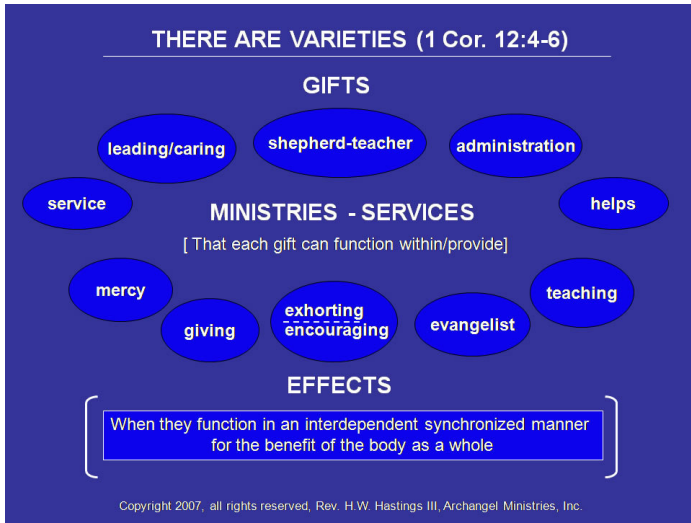
²⁶ because he was longing for you all and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷ For indeed he was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

Philemon 1:10-13 I appeal to you for my child Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my imprisonment, ¹¹ who formerly was useless to you [*unsaved*], but now is useful [*saved*] both to you and to me. ¹² I have sent him back to you in person, that is, sending my very heart, ¹³ whom I wished to keep with me, so that on your behalf he might minister to me in my imprisonment for the gospel;

Gift of Service (cont.)

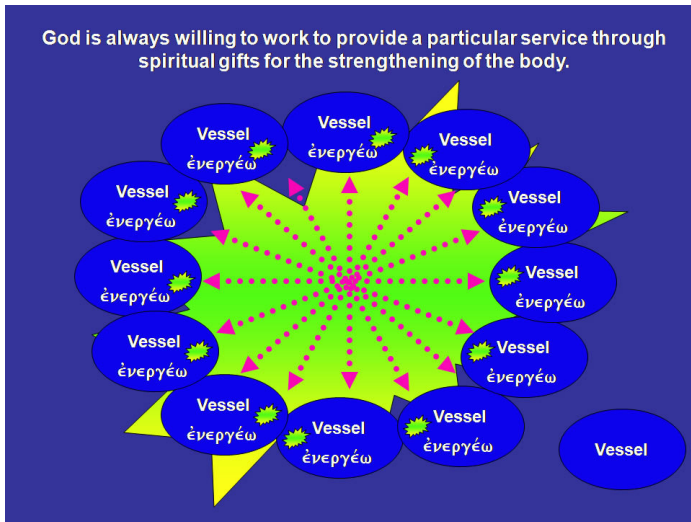
➤ A “behind the scenes” gift

➤ As such, the gift of service requires great humility and love [*for the Savior*]; love for the infallible word of God.



POD: An abundance of spiritual supply is exchanged when God is working in and through believers who are in contact Eph 4:16; Phil 2:13.

POD: Spiritual activity within believers in contact increases opportunities to maximize walking in the works God prepared beforehand Eph 2:10.

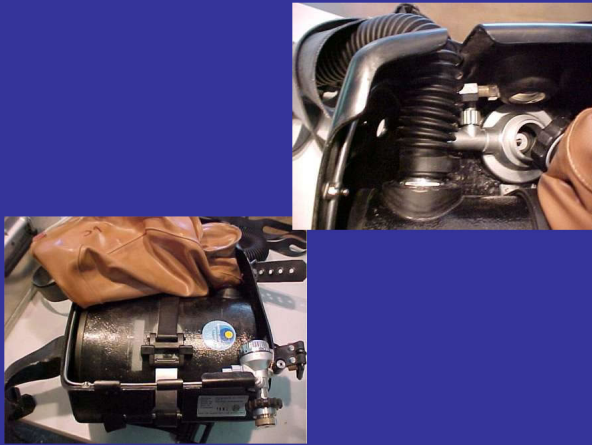


ἡ κοινωνία τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος (2 Cor. 13:14)

ὅπως ἡ κοινωνία τῆς πίστεώς σου ἐνεργῆς γένηται ἐν ἐπιγνώσει παντὸς ἀγαθοῦ τοῦ ἐν ἡμῖν εἰς Χριστόν (Philemon 6)

2 Cor 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Philemon 1:6 and I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective through the knowledge of every good thing which is in you for Christ's sake.



Drager LarV rebreather

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.