

## SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #27 – Sunday AM2 August 5, 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. . .

**Romans 12:6-8** *Corrected translation - Since we keep on having 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; <sup>7</sup> if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality. . .*

## **PERMANENT SPIRITUAL GIFTS**

### **I. SERVICE**

- Definition - from **διακονία** in the Greek. The supernatural ability and motivation to serve in an official or non-official capacity within a local church or ministry. Given to both men and women.

### **II. TEACHING**

- Definition - from **διδάσκω** in the Greek. The supernatural ability and motivation to break down biblical truth, apply and communicate it in a relevant manner to believers.

### **III. ENCOURAGING - EXHORTATION**

- Definition - from **παρακαλέω** in the Greek. The supernatural ability and motivation to encourage fellow believers to take action in realizing God's will.

### **IV. GIVING –**

- Definition - from **μεταδίδωμι** in the Greek. The supernatural ability and motivation to effortlessly give liberally in grace with faith from one's abundance.

*You cannot give what you do not have.*

... he who **leads**, with diligence;

- **Leads** - **προϊστημι** – **PROHISTEMI** which has two ranges of meaning.
  1. "To stand at the head of; to rule, to manage, to direct, to conduct, or to lead"
  2. "To be concerned about, to care for, or to give aid"
- In the past, I taught this as the spiritual gift of care-giver in line with the 2<sup>nd</sup> range of meaning.

That needs to be corrected.

*Care-Giver is a spiritual gift set composed of Helps and Mercy.*

➤ **Diligence** - ἐν σπουδῇ - EN plus SPOUDE –

“Eagerness, earnestness, diligence, speedily, zeal” -- Greek Lexicon

“Zealous concern” -- Theological Dictionary of the New Testament

The spiritual gift of προΐστημι teaches that one who leads must do so with care and without delay.

**Leadership must be on-time and on-target.**

Paul uses προΐστημι - PROHISTEMI - in reference to the qualifications for two offices in the church.

**1 Timothy 3:1-2, 4, 8, 12** It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the **office of overseer**, it is a fine work he desires to do.

➤ **Office of overseer** - ἐπισκοπή – EPISKOPE – Office of overseer

ἐπίσκοπος – EPISKOPOS – One who occupies the office of overseer

↳ Reference to the Pastor-Teacher

**2** An **overseer** [ἐπίσκοπος] then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

**Religion** is man, by man’s efforts, trying to gain approbation from God based on the things he can do.

**Christianity** is a relationship with God based on what God can do in and through you.

Please observe that Overseer (vv. 1-2) is in the *singular* whereas Deacon (vs. 8) occurs in the *plural*.

**POD:** God’s design for the local church is one ἐπίσκοπος – EPISKOPOS [a man with the spiritual gift of Pastor-Teacher] with a plurality of Deacons.

**2** An overseer then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

➤ “Able to teach” because he has the gift of Pastor-Teacher.

**4** He must be one who **manages his own household** well, keeping his children under control with all dignity

➤ **Manages his own household** from προΐστημι – PROHISTEMI – “To stand at the head of”

➤ **Household** - οἶκος – OIKOS – A reference to his *family*

Remember the 2<sup>nd</sup> range of meaning for **PROHISTEMI** – “To be concerned about, to care for”

The Greek does not separate the concept of *caring* from *leading*.

*If you are a good leader you care for those under your authority.*

**POD:** Great leaders care for those under their authority.

**POD:** God’s design for a husband and father is a man who leads with care for his wife and family.

A man who takes his wife and children into consideration when making decisions is leading with care.

<sup>8</sup> Deacons likewise *must be* men of dignity, not double-tongued, or addicted to much wine or fond of sordid gain,

<sup>12</sup> Deacons must be husbands of *only one wife*, and good managers [*good leaders*] of *their* children and their own households.

As a Spiritual Gift, **προΐστημι – PROHISTEMI** encompasses responsibility for something one has charge over *in the church*.

**1 Thessalonians 5:12** But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently **labor** among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction.

- **labor** - **κοπιᾶω – ΚΟΡΙΑΟ** - mental and spiritual exertion
- have charge over you - **προΐστημι – PROHISTEMI**
- in the Lord - **ἐν κυρίῳ - EN plus KURIO**
- give you instruction - **νουθετέω – NOUTHETEO** – “*To warn, admonish, instruct*”

Leadership in this passage requires exertion in the mental and spiritual domains.

Leadership requires *thinking and prayer!*

**POD:** The caring leader always considers how his decisions will affect others.

Leadership also requires warning, admonishing, and issuing instructions.

This gift of leadership is inherent in the Shepherd half of the gift of Pastor-Teacher.

**Ephesians 4:11** - **ποιμήν – διδάσκαλος – POIMEN-DIDASKALOS**

Shepherd [*leader*] - Teacher

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