

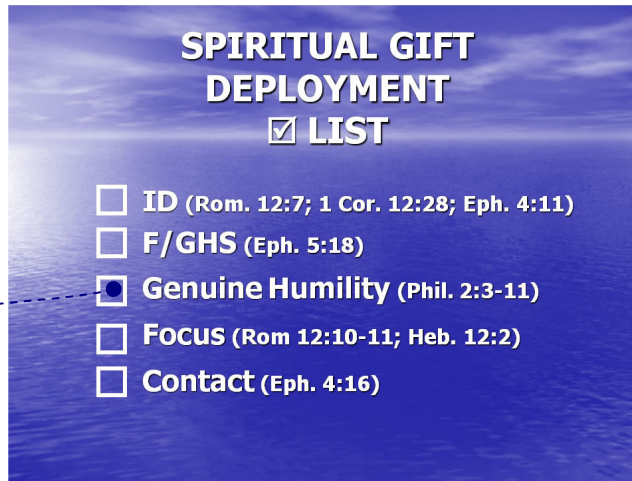
SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #45 – Tuesday PM September 18, 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. . .



How does the believer “*keep on being filled*”?
Ephesians 5:18

1. Grieve not the Spirit [**Ephesians 4:30**].
2. Walk by the Spirit [**Galatians 5:16**].
3. Suppress not the Spirit [**1 Thessalonians 5:19**].
4. Follow – malleability to His lead [**Galatians 5:25**]

POD (review): The believer’s gift will not function unless he keeps on being filled by the Spirit.

Genuine Humility (continued)

- 1) POD: The believer is to do everything from the love of Christ (**Phil 2:3-4 cf. 1 Cor. 13:2-8**).
- 2) POD: The love of Christ is produced by God the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer as the believer walks by the Spirit (**Gal 5:16, 22-23**).

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of [produced by] the **Spirit** is love. . .

- 3) POD: As the believer walks by the Spirit, the love of Christ is manifested in his life and that love *constraineth* him (**2 Cor. 5:14**).

2 Cor. 5:14 “The love of Christ constraineth us. . .” (King James Version)

“To control, impel, or urge”

- The love of Christ keeps on impelling the believer as he is manifested *from within*.
- As that love of Christ is manifested, the believer looks out for the interests of fellow believers.
- As he is looking out for the interests of fellow believers, his spiritual gift is functioning for the common good.
- As a collective group of believers begin looking out for the interests of each other, their spiritual gifts begin to function for the common good.

Those gifts are conferring the needed benefit for the body to function in a coordinated manner for the glory of God.

The love of Christ then is produced or *manifested* in the life of the believer as he “walks by the Spirit.”

4) POD: The love of Christ, produced by the Spirit in the life of the believer, impels the believer to employ his spiritual gift for the benefit of fellow believers (**Gal 5:22 cf. 2 Cor. 5:14; 1 Cor. 12:7**).

1 Corinthians 12:7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

- One of the manifestations of the Spirit is the love of Christ.
- Another manifestation is a Spiritual gift.

God the Holy Spirit produces that love of Christ in your life.

- Therefore, the love of Christ is for the common good because it impels the believer to function effectively for the body of Christ.

When the believer functions effectively for the body, spiritual benefit is conferred to fellow believers in that body!

Definition - Spiritual Gift:

“. . . the Holy Spirit doing a particular service through the believer and using the believer to do it” (Chafer, Vol. VI, 216).

5) POD: Without the love of Christ being manifested in our lives, our service profits us nothing because we are not being used by the Spirit (**1 Cor. 13:2-3**).

Romans 12:1 “Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

1 Corinthians 13:2-3 If I have *the gift of prophecy*. . .

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, and know all mysteries and all knowledge;

²If I should have the spiritual gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge. . .

If you knew and understood the full realm of Bible doctrine! GREAT!

But - - this also includes something far beyond what has been revealed in God’s Word.

Isaiah 55:8 “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD.

Should you have one of the greatest spiritual gifts given to men and know everything God knows.

. . . and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love [*the love of Christ*], I am nothing.

The superlative faith to trust God in prayer to accomplish what many consider impossible

³ And if I give all my possessions to feed *the poor* [*for Christ*], and if I surrender my body to be burned [*martyred for Christ*], but do not have *the love of Christ manifested in my life which constraineth me to do those things* it profits me nothing.

οὐδὲν ὠφελοῦμαι

“I am not being used; I am not useful!”

Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been **poured out** within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

▶ **HOPE** - ἐλπίς - **ELPIS** – “*hope, expectation, or confident expectation*” - - a trust in God!

The love of God is the love of Christ.

Given – δίδωμι – **DIDOMI** – “*To give*”

IF GOD’S PROMISES FOR YOUR LIFE ARE NOT BEING FULFILLED, THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH GOD BUT YOU!

ἐκκέχυνται ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν

“Poured out within our hearts”

Poured out - ἐκκέω – **EKCHEO** – “*To flow out, pour out, to scatter, or bestow in abundance*”

Greek English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains – “*To cause someone to experience something in an abundant or full manner.*”

➤ Paul and many others experienced the love of Christ the moment they received God the Holy Spirit and that love continued to be manifested in their lives.

As the believer “walks by the Spirit” the love of Christ is manifested in that believer.

➤ The perfect tense used in this verse places emphasis on the present state in the life of the believer resulting from past action.

➤ Please observe where the believer experiences this love of Christ in an abundant or full manner. . .

ἐν ταῖς καρδίαις ἡμῶν

“Within our hearts. . .”

διὰ πνεύματος ἁγίου

“. . . through the Holy Spirit”

POD: The believer always has the potential to experience the love of Christ being manifested in his life by the Spirit.

POD: It is predicated on the believer living in proper adjustment to the Mentorship of God the Holy Spirit.

“Keep on being filled”

Ephesians 5:18

1. Grieve not the Spirit [Ephesians 4:30].
2. Walk by the Spirit [Galatians 5:16].
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The love of Christ surpasses all knowledge!

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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