

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #48 – Tuesday PM September 25, 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. . .

Genuine Humility (continued from *Spiritual Deployment Checklist*)

Philippians 2:3-11 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Do everything from the love of Christ.

- As the love of Christ is manifested in the life of the believer, the believer is motivated to look out for the interests of others.
- The humble believer is able to look out for the interests of others with his spiritual gift(s).

The manifestation of the Spirit is for the common good. **1 Cor 12:7**

The function of spiritual gifts is a manifestation of the Spirit.

Fulfilling the responsibilities of the Church Age Believer Priesthood are manifestations of the Spirit because He is working in us to will and to do. **Phil 2:13**

Believers in the Church Age have an extremely high standard!

⁵ Have this **attitude** in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.

- **Attitude** – φρονέω – PHRONEO – “Keep on having this attitude”
- **In yourselves** - ἐν + σὺ – EN plus SU – “In y’all”

⁵ **Keep on having** this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.

An extremely lofty standard!

John 15:12 “This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.”

- We are exhorted to “walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which we have been called.” **Eph. 4:1**

Are you capable of meeting those standards on your own?

To walk in a manner worthy of your calling

To love as Christ loved

To have His attitude at all times

- In and of ourselves, we are incapable of attaining to such heights.
- To attain these standards requires the high standards of grace.

Mentorship of God the Holy Spirit + truth [Metabolized Bible Doctrine ~ in your stream of consciousness] = the grace ability to attain those lofty standards

How can we walk in a manner worthy of your calling unless we are enabled to?

How can we love another just as Christ loves us unless we have His love to love others?

As God the Holy Spirit is able to manifest that love in us; so we are enabled to love as Christ loved.

⁵ **Keep on having** this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.

His attitude

His disposition

His fullness

These things are nothing that we can attain by human effort, and that is why God commands us to walk by the Spirit of God.

Jesus Christ is our example -

- He was malleable.
- He was the epitome of genuine humility.
- He exemplified the concept of “regarding others as more important than self.”

⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but **emptied** Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- **Emptied** – κενώω – **KENOO** – “He divested Himself of divine prerogative; suspended His divine privileges.”

He restricted the independent use of His divine attributes in accordance with the Father’s will.

“A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME. . . TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD” **Heb. 10:5, 7**

“. . . for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame. . .” **Heb. 12:2**

A joy that He would experience at the right hand of the Father after having endured the cross – after fulfilling the Father’s will.

⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus **EVERY KNEE WILL BOW**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that **every tongue** will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Jesus Christ applied faith to the promises of God while suffering on the cross.

1 Corinthians 13:7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

The love of Christ endures all things!

John 15:13 “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

- His love for us enabled Him to endure the cross.

- No one can grasp “the breadth and length and height and depth” of that love apart from the **πλήρωμα τοῦ θεοῦ**, *the fullness of God*.

Ephesians 5:1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;

A beloved child reflects the character of his parents.

² and walk in love. . .

- **Walk** – περιπατέω – PERIPATEO – “Keep on walking”
- **In love** - ἐν ἀγάπῃ - EN plus AGAPE – “By means of love; because of love; on the basis of love”

How we walk - - why we walk!

. . . just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

- Jesus Christ propitiated [*satisfied*] the Father on the cross.
- Jesus Christ offered Himself as a sacrifice for us - - because He loved us.
- Jesus Christ endured the cross because He was enabled by means of His love - - love endures all things.

Christ’s love includes both *why* and *how*.

When Christ’s love is manifested by the Spirit in us - it impels us for “the love of Christ constraineth us.”
2 Cor. 5:14

1 Cor. 16:14 Let all that you do be done in love.

Christ’s Love!

- Let all that you do be done **on account of Christ’s love** as it is manifested in your life by the Spirit.
- Let the love of Christ, produced by God the Holy Spirit, be the cause for what you do.

Ephesians 5:1-2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

- When we set ourselves apart to be used by God with our gifts, it’s on the basis of the Savior’s love being manifested in us by the Spirit.
- That’s why we are living sacrifices - we offer ourselves up to God to be used by Him with our gifts.

Galatians 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

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