

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Class #54 – Tuesday PM October 9, 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).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

POD: The command to place ourselves at God's disposal is a post-salvation decision motivated by personal love for Jesus Christ in response to His love initiated on the cross (**Rom. 12:1; John 3:16; Gal 3:13; Titus 2:14; 1 Pet. 1:18; Eph 5:25-27**).

Romans 12:1 “. . . present our bodies as a living and holy sacrifice. . .”

Ephesians 5:25-27 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

- gave Himself up – παραδίδωμι – PARADIDOMI – “Turn oneself over; give oneself up; commit”
- Jesus Christ, our Beloved, voluntarily gave Himself up for us.

Ephesians 5:2 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.

Jesus Christ gave Himself up for us – as a substitute!

²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Positional Sanctification – occurs at salvation.

➔ **Progressive Sanctification** – occurs throughout the life of the believer.

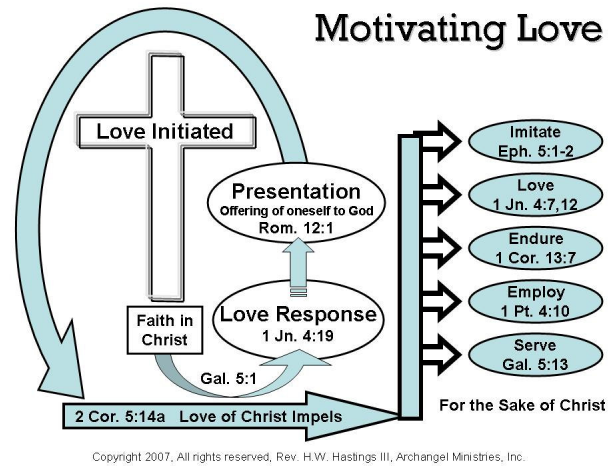
Ultimate Sanctification – occurs when the believer transitions from time to eternity.

POD: In order for God to use you, you must present yourself to Him as a living and holy sacrifice.

This offering of oneself to God can only be accomplished after salvation in fellowship.

Rom. 12:1 states that the sacrifice must be “acceptable to God” - - Post-salvation Fellowship.

POD: The love of Christ is the means by which we can be devoted to one another because it impels us (**Rom 12:10-11; 2 Cor. 5:14**).



Galatians 5:1 It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

Freedom results in love!

1 John 4:19 We love, because He first loved us.

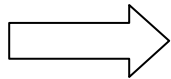
That LOVE RESPONSE in the life of the believer for the Savior results in the motivation to present oneself to God voluntarily.

God does not legislate PRESENTATION.

2 Corinthians 5:14a “For the love of Christ constraineth us. . .” KJV

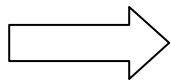
Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Then the LOVE OF CHRIST impels us as we learn to walk by the Spirit to - -



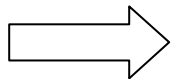
IMITATE the example that Christ established as our exemplar.

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.



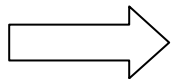
Love one another as Christ loved us.

1 John 4:7, 12-13 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ¹² No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and **His love is perfected in us.** ¹³ By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.



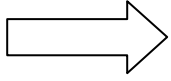
ENDURE all things.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Love . . . ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.



Employ our spiritual gifts.

1 Peter 4:10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.



Serve one another

Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

POD: It is through the Love of Christ being manifested in our lives by God the Holy Spirit that we are able to keep on serving one another with our spiritual gifts.

➤ That service is a demonstration of Christ's love being manifested in you.

POD: The motivating love of Christ is the staying power in the Unique Spiritual Life.

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