

LEMONADE

GIFTED TO GLORIFY GOD, 1 Peter 4:10-11

1 Peter 4:10-11 (KJV) As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. [11] If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Introduction

- Tonight's Lesson is: ***Gifted for God's Glory***
 - As a child of God, you are gifted, you're equipped to do kingdom work
 - During these unprecedented times, God wants the body of Christ to be fully using their spiritual gifts
 - Do you **know** what your spiritual gifts are?
 - What are you **doing** with the gifts God has given to you?
 - Who gets the **honor** when you use your gifts?

You Are Gifted for the Benefit of Others

1 Peter 4:10 "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another,..."

- 1 Peter 4 is Peter writing to Jewish Christians about how to live in the midst of persecution and suffering and how to live in light of Jesus' return
- And in the middle of chapter 4 Peter shifts gears to talk about the **stewardship** of spiritual gifts
 - Peter writes every believer has received the gift, it is literally meaning *special gift*, or divine endowment, or enablement
 - *Spiritual gifts are divinely endowed abilities which empower believers to do spiritual ministry*
- Spiritual gifts are given *sovereignly* by God as He wills
- Every believer at least one spiritual gift, no one is excluded or left out
- Spiritual gifts are not given to "benefit us", but are for *the building and blessing others*
- Our assignment as believers is to use our gifts to build up the *believers in the church*, and to *witness and minister to the world*
- Peter says the spiritual gift you have been given use it to minister or serve *one another*
- When we serve God by using the gift He has given to us, the body of Christ benefits
- When God gives us spiritual gifts; He gives us *the gift, the ability and the opportunity* to use them
- When our spiritual gifts are not used due ignorance, fear, ego, or neglect, the church suffers because we are not operating at *full strength*
- You are a *unique and necessary* part of the body of Christ, the church suffers when your gift is not being used
- ***If there was ever a time when the body of Christ needs to be operating at full strength, it's now***
 - This pandemic has revealed the need for all types of ministry and God has gifted us to do it

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- There are so many people sick, hurting, lonely, need counsel, encouragement, food, need the word of God, etc.
- Your gift is needed and necessary *right now!*
- What God has given *me* is for *you* and you God has given *you* is for *me*
- We are to serve each other the way the waitstaff serves at a restaurant
 - The waitstaff doesn't *prepare* the food, they *serve* it
 - They don't keep the food for themselves, because it was not meant for others
 - Their job is to carry the food from *the chef* who made it *to the people* who are hungry for it
- The gift God has given you is the "food" you are to serve, and the gifts God has given to others is "food" that will be served to you
- **Question:** Do you know what your spiritual gift is and are you using it?

You Are a Steward of God's Grace

Vs. 10 "...as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

- We are to be *good stewards* of the manifold or multifaceted grace of God
- God has a wide variety of spiritual graces He can give us
- God's grace is God's *unmerited favor*
- The spiritual gifts we have are *grace gifts*, there was *nothing* we did to merit them
- We are to be *good stewards* of the spiritual gifts God has given to us
- A steward is a *manager* of the wealth that belongs to another
- The *good steward* is managing the wealth in such a way that it causes the wealth entrusted to them to *increase*
- A *good steward* is a *faithful servant* in the church
- *Good stewards* are responsible for *their own* spiritual gifts
- The only person that can "stir up" *your* gift is *you* **2 Timothy 1:6 (KJV) "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, ..."**
- The opposite of a *good steward* is a *bad steward* that "wastes the grace" of God given to them
- Spiritual gifts can be wasted through *neglect* **1 Timothy 4:14 (KJV) 14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.**
 - Neglect of our spiritual gifts can be a result of ignorance, fear, slothfulness, etc.
- Spiritual gifts can be wasted through *prostituting* our gifts **2 Peter 2:15-16 (MSG) 15 They've left the main road and are directionless, having taken the way of Balaam, son of Beor, the prophet who turned profiteer, a connoisseur of evil. 16 But Balaam was stopped in his wayward tracks: A dumb animal spoke in a human voice and prevented the prophet's craziness.**
- We will have to give an account to God for how we "managed" the gifts He gave to us

Use God's Gifts, God's Way

[11] If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth:

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- The spiritual gifts we have fall into two distinct categories; *speaking gifts* and *serving gifts*
- *Speaking gifts* are preaching, teaching, prophesying, exhortation, gifts of tongues, interpretation of tongues, etc.
- *Service gifts* would be gifts of faith, giving, leadership, hospitality, mercy, helps, etc.
- If you have a *speaking gift*, speak as an *oracle* of God
 - You speak *only* the Word of God and you *allow* God to speak *through* you
 - You don't speak "independent" of God, your speaking gift is not "rogue gift"
 - You are *dependent* on God to minister through you
- If you have a *serving gift*, minister in the *ability or strength* of God
 - Our *serving ministry* is not be "self-serving" where we are "in our flesh" serving only for the attention and recognition ***Philippians 2:3 (KJV) Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.***
 - You acknowledge that our ability and strength come from God and God *alone*

You Are Gifted to Glorify God

Vs. 11 "...that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

- The spiritual gifts that God has given you are to be used to serve one another
- The #1 goal of our using our spiritual gifts is so that God can be *glorified*
- To *glorify* means to "honor", "recognize", magnify or enlarge
- We are to glorify God in *everything* we do ***1 Cor. 10:31 (KJV) Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.***
- How is God *glorified* when we use our spiritual gifts?
 1. God is glorified by our *speaking* the Word of God
 - a. The One whose Word we use that caused people to believe, change and obey *gets* the glory
 2. God is glorified by our *serving* in the ability or strength of God
 - a. The One who gives us the strength to serve others *gets* the glory
- God is glorified by the *results* of you using your spiritual gifts
 - It honors God, it *magnifies* who He is to you when you are faithful in using what God has given you
 - When you use your *speaking gifts* and someone comes to Christ, or you use your *serving gifts* and someone is blessed and encouraged during a challenging time, God is glorified
- We can only glorify God *through* Jesus Christ
- It is *through* Jesus Christ that we have access to God, ***John 14:6 (KJV) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.***
 - It is *through* faith in Jesus Christ that are made righteous in the eyes of God
 - It is *through* the atoning blood of Jesus Christ that our sins are covered and forgiven
 - So, when God looks at us now, all God sees is the righteousness of Jesus Christ

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- Thank God for Jesus!
- God is glorified when use our spiritual gifts
- Therefore, whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God
 - If you **preach**, preach to the glory of God
 - If you **teach**, teach to the glory of God
 - If you **prophecy**, prophecy to the glory of God
 - If **exhort**, exhort to the glory of God
 - If you have the **gift of tongues**, use it the glory of God
 - If you **interpret tongues**, use it to the glory of God
 - If you have the **gift of mercy**, use it to the glory of God
- Whatever spiritual gifts God has given you use them to glory of God
- You're not waiting for a pat on the back, or to hear your name called
- The ultimate objective of your spiritual gifts is to *glorify God*
- All you want to hear is Well done, though good and faithful servant
- To Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen
 - To God belongs all the glory, honor, recognition, and credit!

Altar Call

- If you're not saved there are two gifts waiting on you:
 1. The free of salvation
 2. Gifts of God's grace
- If you're believer and you've been neglecting your gifts, ask God wants you to forgive of your fear, or slothfulness, or disobedience and start glorifying Him by using your spiritual gifts to serve God's people