

Sharing Gifts

Session 5

“The Sharing Gifts” (Gifts that Go Beyond the Walls)

The Gift of Evangelism – (Read: Matthew 28:18-20) In this passage, Jesus told the disciples what they were to do. It is known as the Great Commission. There are three things Jesus said in this passage: We are to go, make disciples and baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. There are people who feel that they don't have the gift of evangelism, so they feel it is not their responsibility to share Christ with other people but know this: we are all called to share the gospel with people in need to hear. All Christians should be witnesses and receive training to witness effectively. Witnessing is a matter of faithfulness.

If you have the gift of evangelism, you are one who enjoys share the gospel with others. You are comfortable in sharing your testimony. Gifted evangelists are especially good at bringing people to the point of making an initial decision to become disciples of Jesus and members of His body, the church. The gift of evangelism is measured by effectiveness. The person who has the gift of evangelism are interested in learning better ways to share their faith.

Below are characteristics of those who have the gift of evangelism:

- 1) Primary motivation is to reach new people for Christ.
- 2) Their specialty is helping people be born again. “involved in planting seeds”
- 3) Sometimes they can sound like prophets, but when they talk about sin and repentance, they never stop there. Their primary message is the forgiveness of sin, the freedom from guilt and the chance at a fresh start available in Jesus Christ.
- 4) They are sympathetic towards the sinner and a little more tolerant to their weaknesses than others.
- 5) They enjoy being around the secular folks than religious folks.
- 6) They have a clear understanding of the gospel message and are often able to memorize scripture and gospel presentations.
- 7) They experience a feeling of great joy when a person responds to an invitation to Christ.

(Read: Luke 24:45-48) In this passage, Jesus reminds the disciples of what he came to do. He tells the disciples that they are to preach His name to all the nations.

(Read: Acts 1:8) According to this passage, we see that we receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us and as a result, we are to be his witnesses. That means God empowers us to share the gospel with others. We, regardless of having the gift of evangelism are called to share the gospel with others.

The Gift of Apostleship – Some people think that the gift of apostleship went away when the office of the apostles ceased to exist, but that is not true.

The definition of apostleship is the ability to motivate the body of Christ to look beyond it's walls in order to carry out the Great Commission. These people usually are involved in planting churches and serving as missionaries. The New Testament uses the word apostle in more of a general sense to describe those who are affirmed by the church and given authority to start new work or strengthen existing work.

The Greek translations for "apostle" is one sent. Another word for apostle is a missionary.

(Read: Rom. 15:20 & II Cor. 10:16) Both of these verses have something in common: it says we are to "preach the gospel." In other words, the one with the gift of apostleship is a missionary. They prefer to work in new places, among new people and/or to oversee the work of an expanding area of influence.

Below are some characteristics of those who have the gift of apostleship:

- 1) They have the ability to adapt to new languages and cultures.
- 2) They show an interest in witnessing the birth of a brand-new group of believers who have never been effectively reached with the gospel of Christ.
- 3) They can easily turn work over to gifted shepherd teachers who will take a long-term responsibility for the welfare and growth of the new flock.
- 4) They are the ones who love to start new churches and also do missions in regions that have never been reached out to.

(Key) They are the ones who live out they hymn "Wherever He Leads I'll Go"