

WEEK 7 EQUIPPED TO SERVE: GIFTS OF MERCY, PASTOR/SHEPHERD, PROPHECY, SERVICE, TEACHING, AND WISDOM

October 29, 2017

*Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. **2 Corinthians 5:18-21 (NKJV)***

THE GIFT OF MERCY

The gift of mercy is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to members of the Body of Christ to feel the hurt of others and genuinely express sympathy and provide comfort for those people. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT CAN

- EXPRESS LOVE, GRACE AND DIGNITY TO THOSE FACING HARDSHIP OR CRISIS
- CHEERFULLY SERVE IN DIFFICULT OR UNCOMFORTABLE CIRCUMSTANCES
- WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK DIRECTLY TO RELIEVE THE PAIN, HUNGER, LONELINESS, AND SUFFERING OF OTHERS
- FOCUS ON IMMEDIATE, PRACTICAL NEEDS

THE GIFT OF PASTOR/SHEPHERD

The gift of pastor/shepherd is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to members of the Body of Christ to guide, protect, nurture and feed a group of believers into growing spirituality. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT

- LEAD AND FEED, GUARD AND PROTECT, AND OVERSEE A GROUP
- COACH AND LEAD THEIR TEAMS
- ARE CONCERNED WITH THE WELFARE OF THOSE IN THEIR CARE
- WORK UNDER A PASTOR AND ARE THEREFORE AN EXTENSION OF THE PASTOR AND MUST "OVERSEE" THEIR PART OF THE FLOCK

THE GIFT OF PROPHECY

The gift of prophecy is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to members of the Body of Christ to proclaim the Word of God Boldly and with confidence. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT

- ARE COMPELLED BY HIS GIFT TO SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD
- SPEAK OUT WITHOUT APOLOGY AGAINST WRONG AND CALLS PEOPLE TO REPENTANCE
- ARE OFTEN ACCUSED OF BEING JUDGMENTAL

THE GIFT OF SERVICE

The gift of service is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to certain members of the Body of Christ to identify, assist, and support ministries within the Body thereby allowing those ministries to effectively accomplish their desire results. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT

- PROVIDE THE PRACTICAL WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE IN ANY GROUP OR PROGRAM
- ENJOY WORKING BEHIND-THE-SCENES

THE GIFT OF TEACHING

The gift of teaching is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to members of the Body of Christ to communicate Biblical truths in a manner through which others can learn and understand these Biblical truths. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT

- USE AGE-APPROPRIATE METHODS AND MATERIALS
- COMMUNICATE INFORMATION TO INSPIRE GREATER FAITH
- TAKE TIME TO PRAY, PREPARE, STUDY AND REFLECT
- TEST THEIR UNDERSTANDINGS WITH ELDERS AND LEADERS
- SEE BOTH THE FOREST AND THE TREES, AND HELP OTHERS TO MAKE SIMILAR DISTINCTIONS AND CONNECTIONS

THE GIFT OF WISDOM

The gift of wisdom is the special attribute given by God's Spirit to certain members of the Body of Christ to understand and discern Biblical truths and apply these truths. (Jay McSwain, "Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry")

Has to do with application of the truth—skill in godly living

PEOPLE WITH THIS GIFT

- APPLY SPIRITUAL TRUTHS IN IMAGINATIVE, INSIGHTFUL AND PRACTICAL WAYS
- FORESEE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE NOT OBVIOUS
- PROVIDE INSPIRING SOLUTIONS IN THE MIDST OF CONFLICT OR CONFUSION
- PERCEIVE AND RESPOND TO THE DEEP NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS OR THE GROUP