

Eph 4:7-16

Members of The Kingdom: Family.

MIT: Every Christian is given a gift to build up the Body of Christ on the basis and validity of the work of Christ.

MIS: Every Member of the Church Family is graciously given a gift by Christ for the specific task of building up the Body of Christ.

Good Moring Church,

We are in our series *Members of The Kingdom* studying the Core Values of Image Church. These values are **Worship, Missional Living, Stewardship, and Family**. Today we are continuing to look at what Scripture says about the Church as Family.

I am grateful to be in this family and that I get to worship with you each week. And this morning I have the honor, and joy, to worship with you through the preaching of God's word.

For anyone new, my name is Aaron Turner, I am the XP at Image Church; that title simply means my job changes a lot.

But whatever I seem to be doing on any given day, I have a lot of fun working here and pastoring. You should know this; Image Church is a great place to be and it is a great place to

work with a great staff. And we work hard to help equip you and disciple you towards Jesus.

This can become pretty stressful at times, so we do our best to have some fun and not take ourselves too seriously.

One of the more comical things our staff does is collect healthy dose of Pastor Aaron quotes to publish in our staff newsletter called the *Office Wrap*; for the record I don't really remember saying these some of the things I have been quoted saying.

But I thought for the purpose of today I could share a few of the staff's favorites, of which I will provide no context, but I don't mind poking fun of myself.

Quotes:

"I work hard on the aesthetic of my office. And by that, I mean, I ain't buying crap that's the wrong color"

"Salad is just the vehicle for dressing."

And the most outlandish thing I may or may not have said is...

"I love watching my kids open presents. The joy, and the disappointment. Especially the disappointment."

Now hold tight. I'm not some mean dad. I love my kids. And I want to bring them joy.

Here is why I say this. My wife and I never buy our kids things they won't enjoy. Especially, Laura! She works incredibly getting our kids the perfect gifts that they will love for a long time.

So, when they are a bit disappointed, about not getting yet another Paw Patrol toy, I know one day they will come to appreciate whatever it is we have given them.

Because it has been picked out with love and kindness to give them exactly what they need.

And we are the same way as adults when we are given gifts we don't fully understand, we can experience disappointment.

So, we are going spend the next few moments on this topic of gifts.

You can turn in your bibles to Eph 4 and we will start in verse 7.

As **Members of the Kingdom** we are a family given different gifts by Christ.

So, you can write this down, or take a picture; this is what we will focus on from today's scripture.

MIS: Every Member of the Church Family is graciously given a gift by Christ for the specific task of building up the Body of Christ.

Sermon Body

7 Now grace was given

That's enough for now. Let's talk about this emphasis in transitional statement made.

It is setting us up to execute the directive give in the first sentence of this chapter.

A few weeks back we studied these previous verses (the first six in this chapter). We learned as followers of Jesus we have a specific calling on us and we are to *"walk (or live) worthy of the calling you have received," (Eph 4:1).*

And we learned the character traits that come with this lifestyle: humility and gentleness, patience, bearing one another in love, keeping unity amongst the church body.

We are now getting to a little more detail of this new life in Christ.

Calling can seem a bit ambiguous; however, I think we can bring some clarity to this ambiguity.

We can think about calling in two ways.

The first is, as communicated in verses 1-6, a call to the capital 'C' Church – the church at large.

The second way to think about calling is to focus on the specific calling of an individual, and their giftings, within the capital “C” Church¹.

For example:

1. All Christians have a universal call: To make disciples and Love the Lord/Love our Neighbors: Matthew 28/Act 1:8; and Duet 6/Matt 22.
 - a. Matt 28:18-20: *Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”* -- Matthew 28:18-20 (CSB)
 - b. Acts 1:8: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”* -- Acts 1:8 (CSB)
 - c. Deuteronomy 6:4-9: *“Listen, Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.* -- Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (CSB)
 - d. Then Repeated by Jesus during his ministry on Earth saying ...

- e. **Matthew 22:37 & 39:** *37“Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind39 The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.* -- Matthew 22:37 & 39 (CSB)

These are 2 of the things all Christians are commanded or Called to do as **Members of The Kingdom.**

The way we say this here is we are working to see **One More** person know Jesus.

There are also specific callings and giftings individual have in the church. These are meant for the betterment and building of the Church.

2. And a specific calling every individual has from Christ.
 - a. None of these specific callings, or ways of living, or what you give your life to; will be in contrast or competition to the Church’s overarching calling.
 - b. However, it can vary between individuals, which creates this wonderful Body with so many different gifts for the betterment of the church.
 - c. These giftings are part of the “**grace [that] was given**”

I know that all of us have a specific gifting because the verse continues saying...

7 *Now grace was given to each one of us*

¹ Hoehner, Harold W., *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*, Baker Academic. 2002, pg. 522. A move from the Church calling to the Individuals giftings.

right from the start of this transitional moment in the above verses we are learning we are given a gift – grace.

Grace – this is getting something we do not deserve.

~~Or another way is to define this is “Getting everything we do not deserve.”~~

What an amazing reality of life. Getting something, or getting everything, we do not deserve it.

Kind of like “I get something for nothing”

But that is not the fullest understanding of grace.

However, I want to really help this definition of grace take up some residence in your mind so we can contemplate about the beauty of this gift.

(My ongoing commercial to read the OT)...

There is a word used in the Old Testament to sometimes communicate grace (this is one of many definitions this word is credited with)

The word is...

HESED.

There is no word in our languages (including the Greek this letter was written in) that can fully communicate its meaning.

Often in the OT is translated as “Loving-Kindness, Loving Mercy, Merciful, Merciful loving-kindness, grace, graciously, Full of loving kindness and grace, full of grace, covenant love, gracious love, covenant friendship,” I could keep going, but you get the point.

Why do I bring this up?

Because some of the writers of the New Testament most likely thought in Hebrew and wrote in Greek.²

The author of this book Ephesians – Paul – would most likely be one of these of authors. And he would have a very good understanding of the word HESED.

Meaning when he is communicating character attributes of God, he understood God as a God of HESED (loving kindness, gracious, merciful).

So, when we read the word Grace in this passage it was written with this word HESED at it side.

I recently read a great definition of the word HESED written by a song writer, named Michael Card. For those of you who don't know his work he wrote the song *El Shaddai in the '90s* (I could try to explain but you just have to know the song; look it up later.)

² Card, Michael, *Inexpressible*, 119.

Anyway, the definition:

HESED – when the person from whom I have a right to expect nothing gives me everything³

(LET IT REST; GIVE ROOM; SAY IT AGAIN)

HESED – when the person from whom I have a right to expect nothing gives me everything⁴

And when we understand the definition of **Grace in the context of the fullness of our God’s loving-kindness (HESED),**

It moves from
“I get something for nothing;”

to

“something that could never have been, is now something that will always be!!!!”

We get the fullness of Christ. He gives us everything we need. This is the gift we are given. It is a gift that is with us right now. It is with you and me and it is in the form of grace from Christ!

³ Ibid., 5

⁴ Ibid., 5

And this Grace (this HESED) is given to us because the one person – Jesus – who never deserved the penalty of sin (wrongdoing against God), took our penalty – He took our place in final judgment.

The fullness of HESED.

HESED – when the person from whom I have a right to expect nothing, gives me everything⁵

Now how do we know that this gift we receive is actually valid?

How do we know this will stand the test of time?

What is this grace – this something, this everything?

Good questions; let’s keep moving through the scripture:

7 *Now grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.*

There is your answer:

Because the gift we received is from Christ and is completely depended on Him.

This verse is written to put the emphasis on the dependency of Christ.

⁵ Ibid., 5

The first part of the sentence is reliant on the second clause to carry the weight.

Illustration:

Here is an example:

So, this morning I have decided to give out equal shares of ownership of the Atlanta Braves and all its subordinate teams and organizations to every person in this room right now.

Well I hope before you all get too excited you ask “What or who is backing up Pastor Aaron’s promise?”

The answer is No One! My promise is depended on actually being responsible for the Braves and having the authority to give this gift.

You get the point. In this verse we are promised a gift of grace not on an empty statement or on a measure we need to accomplish.

But it is given to us “according to the measure of Christ’s gift.”

Not on our ability to conjure up a gracious gift or work hard to create an opportunity to receive the gift of grace.

Well, what does that mean?

What is the measure of Christ’s gift?

More good questions!

Picking up in verse 8

8 For it says:

Alright, so...nah I’m just kidding; we will up the pace a bit.

Verse 8:

8 For it says:

When he ascended on high,

he took the captives captive;

he gave gifts to people.

Look here “He gave gifts to the people.”

Within the gift of grace there are multiple gifts given to the church.

Verse 8 is a quote of Psalm 68 and can seem confusing; however, we get some help from the next two sentences.

Starting in verse 9 we have a parenthetical statement

In some bibles they actually put verses 9 & 10 in parentheses.

This is great to know because it helps us understand verse 8 in its proper context.

For my teachers and grammar enthusiast you know why we use parentheses but for the rest of us, I will let you know.

It is to insert a word, phrase, or sentence beside the rest of the sentence.

These next two sentences/verses are standing next to verse 8 saying, this is what this verse means. They go together.

When reading Verse 9 & 10 we need to know they are written to explain the previous verse.

And verse 9 and 10 say:

9 But what does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower parts of the earth? 10 The one who descended is also the one who ascended far above all the heavens, to fill all things.

Oh, now verse 8 make total sense – got it!

Maybe?

Okay so here is what is happening. This section is written to validate to us – the reader – the Authority of Christ and his ability to give gifts to his children.

Remember earlier when I promised everyone was going to own the Braves. That is not a valid gift.

But Gods’ Gift to us through Christ is valid.

In these verses is some great imagery from the Old Testament – Psalm 68 to be exact – to explain the work of Christ.

In Psalm 68 God is, metaphorically, going up to Mt. Zion to deliver Israel from their captives and descending to set Israel free.⁶

Now this is being used to show us that Christ is the one who has **ascended** to rule after **descending** to earth to put the final death blow on His enemies and even death itself!

From this we now know that our gifts – that come from the measure of Christ’s gifts – are valid.

This is good news church! This is another layer of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! The Good News of Christ.

He descended to earth and defeated the enemy, then ascended far above all the heavens...

(this is communicating everything that is in existence), to fill all things (meaning he has rule and dominion over all things)!!!!

The measure of Christ’s gift cannot be overcome by anything.

⁶ Chapell, Bryan, *Ephesians, Reformed Expository Commentary*, P&R Publishing Company, 2009, pg. 188.

It is always and forever.

It will stand the test of time.

Therefore, hear this – **we have been given a gift by Christ, based on the work of Christ, under the full authority of Christ.**

Earlier in this book (the book of Ephesians) it is written in **Chapter 2:10** *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.”* -- Ephesians 2:10 (CSB)

(maybe a bit of foreshadowing); however, what we are seeing more explanation on how we execute these good works – we use the gift God gives us.

And continuing with the emphasis on the giver verse 11 saying...

11 And he himself... (we cannot question who is the giver of the spiritual gifts to the church – Christ)

...gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God’s Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ’s fullness. 14 Then we will no longer be little children, tossed by the waves and blown around by every wind of teaching, by human

cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit. 15 But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head — Christ. 16 From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part. -- Ephesians 4:7-16 (CSB)

What we have here is a list of spiritual gifting listed and why they exist.

You may be asking “where do I fit into this list of giftings. And I say to you... I don’t know, but we can help figure it out. But before we get too far into that discussion, I want to tell you what I do know based on this Scripture.

I do know you have a gift and...

1. Your gifts have a purpose:

- a. To build up the body of Christ.
- b. Bring unity within the body
- c. Defend against deceitful teachings.
- d. Work together to bring us to Jesus and grow the church.

Take a look back at the writing. It says

SOME to be...

1. Apostle
2. Prophets
3. Evangelists

4. Pastors and Teachers

First thing, no one has all of these. And no one person is meant to have all of these gifts. And these are not the only gifts we see listed in Scripture.

It does not say “all” were given....it says “some to be given”⁷

It is by design that no one person receives every gift. So, for you overachievers out there...slow down a bit; don't try to be all the things.

And for those of you who don't think you have anything to offer, stop lying to yourself; you have a gift given by God for the building of His Kingdom.

Also hear this, not a single “one of us is called to do all the work of Christ because, he has not given every gift to every person.”⁸

We don't determine what gift we are naturally given by God –the innate gifting – nor do we determine the amount of the gifting we receive from Christ. (Reminder: Who much is given much is required; the one who is faithful with little will be given more).

We learned in verse 7 that the gifts are measured by Christ and here is a return to that measure in v 13.

⁷ Chapell, 187.

⁸ Ibid., 187

This means both the gift you have, and the amount of that particular gifting is given by Christ.

Don't be jealous of others giftings. Know the (Let the) gift God has given you; live in that gifting.

I have a phrase I say to myself and have for a while: “**Take care of your own grass.**” Don't worry about what others have that you wish you could have. Cultivate the gifts given to you by God.

The work of the church does not go to one single person or just a few people – it goes to all of us.

There is a phrase in the vocational ministry world, which is a bit hard to reconcile because the phrase is based on the reality of most local church bodies, ~~is this—you may have heard it.~~ Also, this is not to say this is true here; that is not the point I am trying to make.

The saying:
“20% of the people do 80% of the work.”

This is not God's design. Christ did not measure out 100% of the giftings to 20% of the people. He gave every redeemed person in the church a gift.

Illustration:

I'm going to let you into the inner workings of my head a little bit.

I have phrases that run in my head on repeat. I told you early about some of the more ridiculous things I can come up with (those earlier were me joking).

Here is one:

1. “Things take the time they take.”
 - Just think about it.
 - This keeps me from rushing around a losing focus.
2. “If I don’t want to spend time with my kids now; they may not want to spend time with me later.”
 - I want my kids to desire time with me when they are 16/17 years old and have good conversations with me.

Then I have this one.

3. “Every Saved person is saved”
 - There is no half salvation in Christ.
 - There is no a little bit of redemption when Jesus saves us.
 - We get the full working of the Gospel that will take an entire lifetime of learning.
 - So, this means, every Christian in this room has a specific gifting or gift that is meant to

Build up the body to bring “unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God’s Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ’s fullness.”

Learn the gift, or gifts, Christ gives you and use it for His purpose.

For those of you who are gifted at teaching and shepherding children – please go work with the kids at Image Church or use your gifting to help build a Student Ministry that is needed here..

Some of you need to lead the charge in evangelism here at Image Church. You are part of the “Some gifted as evangelist” so use this gifting.

Start using your giftings to accomplish the purpose of these Spiritual Gifts you are given:

- a. To build us up in Christ
- b. And to unify the church.
- c. Defend against deceitful teachings

Some of you know how Christ has gifted you and others in here are still figuring this out.

Well today is a good day to start this process or keep that process going.

Illustration:

I was recently in a learning session about helping others know their strengths and giftings. Part of the session talked about some insightful research they conducted.

What they did was poll a number of marketplace leaders (CEO, COO, CHRO, CFOs, Presidents, VPs, etc.) to find out if there is a specific type of strength these men and women possess; the

results shocked them. There was not one specific strength that cut through as a “must-have” strength possessed by every Leader

What these leaders did all possess was the knowledge of their giftings and they used them to the best of their abilities.⁹

One of the joys of my job is helping every person on our staff team know what they are built to do. (So, if you ever join our staff – great place to work – you will go through the assessments we use.)

I have even spent time with a few of the members of Image Church working with this, which is very encouraging as one of your pastors.

We also have our Core Class this fall that can help you with this process by learning more about The God of the Bible, more details on each of the spiritual gifts.

We have published a podcast about the spiritual giftings.

Remember this is not based on our competency as people but on the work of Jesus himself.

We as believers need to do the work of the ministry and we need to know in what area we are the most gifted to work.

⁹ Key Note, Gallup at Work Summit, June 5-7, 2023.

Call to Action:

So how do you understand your gifting? How do you know God’s gift to you?

You need affirmation. And to get this affirmation you need to spend time in the Scriptures and time praying. You need to spend time with the Church, and at the church, doing the things of the Lord. This is a work of the Spirit.

To be clear this is hard work. Like most things worth doing it will take effort.

What Next?

Here is how this works in our day to day.

You say “I think I am really good at teaching. I like to teach. I am going to teach.” Great! So, you find an opportunity to teach in some way and you find out you really do like this and the people you are teaching are learning and people in the church are affirming what you are doing.

Obviously, this is a simplified version of how it actually works and needs to be evaluated by the right people.

What I hope you see is the call to action. It is not enough to say Christ has gifted you in a particular way, but then never do what is needed to learn about this gift.

If you are gifted in shepherding, start looking for opportunities here are Image Church to exercise this gift. Only then can you learn if you are gifted in this area.

A teacher – start looking for one of the weekly teaching opportunities in Image Kids or this fall with our middle/high/college student.

Go to the Core Class so you can potentially start teaching in the Institute. The registration is live.

But as a framework, for you to get started on your journey, to get started I have a diagram¹⁰.

Insert diagram

1. God's Design/Innate Abilities (what are you naturally good at)
2. Areas the Lord has given Success (Past successes)
3. Affirmations from The Church (pastors, community groups, friends).

Coming back to this – this is hard work with The Lord, with the body of Christ, and with ourselves. This requires some self-reflection and going Deeper into the things of God – The Gospel.

The first question is to ask something like this:

¹⁰ Collins, Jim, *Good to Great*, Harper Business, 2001, pg. 137. Pastor JD Greear has created a version to help determine calling.

1. What do you perceive you are naturally good at? What are you naturally drawn to? What do you enjoy?

And this is the hardest question to answer. What we are good at is often hard to see, and we assume everyone is good at what we are good at.

This will also take some time If you have never asked these types of questions.

Don't miss the working of the Spirit of God in you through this process. Earlier I mentioned God is and has prepared us for good works in Eph 2:10. God has given us all certain preferences and talents that come natural to you. We enjoy certain things in life that we should use in the church. It is a God given gift.

Yes, we have broken desires and they can be self-serving a lot of the time; however, our desires as Christians can be and are redeemed in Christ. So, we don't need to completely throw away the things we enjoy as a form of penance to the Lord.

2. Where have you had success in the past?

Evaluate previous moments in life when you have seen good things come from the work you have done in the church and outside of the church. This helps affirm your giftings.

Then,

3. What has the church affirmed in you?

What are these things. This is one of the main points of this passage. There are other people here at image Church who are really gifted in helping pinpoint people's strengths or gifting.

VAMP

Ending

I encourage you to really lean into God's word and the Church for this hard task.

We are with you; we want to help you know these and use the gifts.

I'm here and so is the rest of the staff, talk with the people in your community, your friends.

The Lord is with you

I could go on; however, if you want to study further, we can talk more.

But for today **remember:**

MIS: Every Member of the Church Family is graciously given a gift by Christ for the specific task of building up the Body of Christ.

Bullpen

Please start the conversation.

because when we understand how we are individually gifted, we will work together to grow in every way into him who is the head — Christ.

Pray

I want you to know how you can start the process of figuring this out if you don't know or if you are struggling with how you are gifted.

All of these gifts are given by Christ and each Christian has a gift given to you.

An important point to make sure we understand here is there is a diverse range of giftings for the building of the body of Christ.

There maybe someone in this room right now with the innate gift of teaching. You may not be a professional teacher like the educators in the room, but you have this gift.

At Image Church we are committed to teaching the next generation about the Gospel of Jesus. And we need you to help teach our kids and the rising students about Jesus.

You have been given a gift to help disciple other people in the Body of Christ.

Let me remind you, Image Church is a great place to work and we have a great staff, and it is a great church be a part of. Let me give you a reason why?

1. We work to equip each one of you for the work of the ministry. So, in turn you can build up the body of Christ.
2. We work hard at knowing our talents and gifting we have.

When we read this list take a look at the vast range of diverse giftings:

There is this continued focus on unity that is happening with in the body.

We can look back at the first 6 verses of this chapter and see the need and ordained position of unity the church is constantly working towards the fullness of the knowledge of Jesus.

~~We are able to work towards this through each of us fulfil the giftings give to you by Jesus.~~

~~It is Christ is does this work and we are blessed to be part of this work of building God's family — The Church.~~

~~Well that clears it up; thanks for the grammar lesson.~~

~~Still kind of muddy maybe, but not really.~~

~~What I picture in my head is a group of words made in to cartoon characters with white gloved hands, and big white But shoe and they are wearing classes of course.~~

~~And the parentheses word cartoon with is always standing next to verse 8 linked to it.~~

~~that is exegeting — explain the verse in detail — the verse from Psalm 68:~~

~~“I think I have the spiritual gift of vamp.”~~

~~*.6 These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. 7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates*~~

This is not a complete list of every gift there are others mentioned elsewhere in Scripture.

(Another common list of spiritual giftings are in 1 Corinthians 12:28)

I don't have the authority to give this type of gift. These types of promises require the ability and authority to give them. I am in no way responsible for the Braves, so I have no authority to dish out ownership as I see fit.

Every Believer has a gift and it is given to us by Christ

Every Christian in this room has been given a specific gift to for the betterment of the body of Christ. And you need to use it! It is important to note these things are listed as gifts and not as offices within the church.

There are offices that require some of these giftings, but for this context in Ephesians we are talking specifically about this giftings given to build up the body.

For example, we at image church would say the office of the Prophet or apostle is closed. There was a specific time in Human history The Lord God used these offices to build His church and deliver His word. These are not offices that are needed.

If we still had the office of Prophet, we would need to start adding things to God's work (the Bible), which is not the case. The office of Prophet was to communicate the proclamation and declarations to His people. Since The Lord has given us his word in complete through he Bible we have his declarations.

That being said, the Lord is still giving people prophetic giftings.

The second part of this very long sentence is why we have this gifting.

~~I don't want to spend the rest of our time talking through each one of these;~~

~~Now in the context of this passage we are talking about a localized body. Remember the first 6 verse are about the universal call of the church at large.~~

~~This section is about us as indivial that make up the localized Church that is a place like here — Image Church~~

It is to equip the saints of the work of the ministry and build the church.

This is not necessarily a numerical building; however, it would most likely lead to more people trusting in Jesus and join the Church; it is a spiritual building of the body.

Some of you in this room know your giftings and you maybe using them.

But some of you might not be.

There is this continued focus on unity that is happening with in the body.

We can look back at the first 6 verses of this chapter and see the need and ordained position of unity the church is constantly working towards the fullness of the knowledge of Jesus.

We are able to work towards this through each of us fulfil the giftings give to you by Jesus.

For those of you who are gifted at teaching and shepherding children – please go work with the kids at Image Church.

But as a framework to get started I have a diagram that I have adopted from a book, and a pastor with a few changes¹¹.

1. God's Design/Innate Gifting (what are you naturally good at)
2. Areas the Lord has given Success (Past successes)
3. The Church Affirms in you (pastors, community groups).

Something I really enjoy helping people understand their natural talents or strengths.

So, when we take our staff through this assessment; these are the questions I am working into the conversation. And often times we come to conclusion of how each person is gifted.

This is one of the best parts of my job getting to serve our staff by helping them understand their gifts.

¹¹ Collins, Jim, *Good to Great*, Harper Business, 2001, pg. 137. Pastor JD Greear has created a version to help determine calling.

I have done this with of our members and would enjoy helping other here go through this assessment.

What I am describing here is how the church really uses the gifting possessed to building up the body for the work of the ministry:

1. You are given a gift by Christ

~~This if is for new disciples and current followers of Jesus: This is outreach and ministering to the saint~~