

Sermon Series: JOIN THE TEAM

Sermon Title: "Finding Your Spiritual Gifts: WORD Gifts"

Scripture: Romans 12:4-8 (NIV), I Corinthians 12:4-11, 27-31 (NIV), I Peter 4:9-11 (NIV)

INTRO: "No gift has a primary purpose for the individual, it is always for the betterment of the _____ (Body) of Christ. Spiritual gifts are _____ (tools) to build with, not _____ (toys) to play with, or _____ (weapons) to fight with." (Allen Gallimore)

WORD GIFTS

1. APOSTLE: the special ability that God gives certain members of the Body of Christ to exercise extraordinary _____ (authority) and _____ (leadership) over multiple churches and has exhibited tangible _____ (fruit) in ministry. The evidence of the gift of Apostleship are _____ (signs), _____ (wonders), and _____ (miracles).

-historical example: the Disciples, and Paul

-modern example: General Superintendents, District Superintendents

2. MISSIONARY: the special ability to minister in a second or cross _____ (culture). Paul, a Jew, was gifted to minister to a different culture: _____ (Gentiles)

-historical example: Paul, David Livingston (Africa), Hudson Taylor (China), E. Stanley Jones (India)

-modern example: 700 Nazarene Missionaries around the world

3. EVANGELIST: the special ability to share the _____ (Gospel) with unbelievers in such a way that men and women want to become _____ (Christians). They have a deep _____ (love) and _____ (burden) for lost people.

-historical example: Philip (Acts 7 & 21)

-modern example: Melvin Maxwell, William Soho

4. PROPHECY: to _____ (speak) out, to speak for _____ (another). The special ability to receive and then _____ (communicate) a message from God to His people. Evidence of this gift: _____ (Clarifies) the Word of God, _____ (Encourages) and _____ (Convicts) the Body of Christ, and conveys _____ (future) revelation.

-historical example: Isaiah, Jeremiah

-modern example: Billy Graham, David Gallimore

5. PASTOR: the special ability to assume _____ (long) term responsibility for the _____ (spiritual) welfare of a group of

believers. Characteristics of a Pastor include being a _____ (shepherd) to the congregation, exercises _____ (leadership), and models Christianity by _____ (example).

-historical example: Peter "feed my sheep"

-modern example: Charles Stanley (51 years Pastor of First Baptist in Atlanta, GA)

6. EXHORTATION (Encouragement): the special ability to in a _____ (moment) minister words of _____ (comfort) & _____ (encouragement) to others in the Body of Christ. Another word for exhortation is _____ (testimony).

-historical example: Barnabas (ACTS) "son of encouragement"

-modern example: Wes Tweed & Dewey Walling

7. KNOWLEDGE: the special ability to _____ (discover), analyze and _____ (clarify) information which is pertinent to the growth & well being of the Body of Christ. There are dangers with this gift: _____ (arrogance) and independence of _____ (Christ).

-historical example: Gideon (Judges 6)

-modern example: Mark Alison, Mike McAdory

8. WISDOM: the special ability to receive _____ (knowledge) from God, and then _____ (impart) that knowledge to others in a way that builds relationship with Jesus Christ. The ability to take _____ (complicated) subjects and make them _____ (understandable).

-historical example: Solomon

-modern example: Jay Earles

9. TEACHING: the special ability to _____ (communicate) information relevant to the health and ministry of the Body of Christ. A true teacher has a _____ (hunger) for God's Word, and a _____ (passion) to share truth with others.

-historical example: Jesus Christ (Sermon on the Mount)

-modern example: 40-50 Small Group leaders at MVC

CLOSE: "Now eagerly desire the greater gifts." (I Corinthians 12:31)
SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE!