

Spiritual Gifts 5 - Exhortation and Faith - a study for the Gulf

Coast Baptist Church Bible Institute for the

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Exhortation Rom. 12:1-8

INTRODUCTION

The believer with the spiritual gift of exhortation encourages other believers in the body by urging them to do what they ought to and by comforting the hearts of believers when necessary.

I. THE NAME OF THE GIFT OF EXHORTATION EMBODIES THE FUNCTION OF THE GIFT.

A. Parakalon is a compound word that means:

1. Para, to come alongside of.

2. Kalon, one who calls upon another.

3. In composition the parakalon means **an appeal made to weak believers to comfort the heart; the admonishing of believers to act in accordance with the truth of God's Word**, K.D.J. cf. Acts 15:31 (the

Gentiles over the requirements handed them); 1st Thess. 2:3 (of the teaching of the gospel of God); Heb. 12:5 (doctrine concerning discipline by the Father)

B. There are three aspects of exhortation.

1. Exhortation includes an admonishment to a believer to accomplish behavior that they are capable of accomplishing. cf. Rom. 16:17 (of making those who cause division); Acts 13:42 (of continuing in the faith)

2. Exhortation includes an encouragement to weary believers to continue forward towards accomplishing what God desires. 2 Co.

1:4;7:6

3. Exhortation includes an aiding of a confused believer with the truth necessary to rightly align them with scripture. Priscilla and Aquila with Apollos. Acts 18:24-28

C. Barnabas epitomizes the use of the gift.

1. He was characterized as the son of . Acts 4:36

2. He exhorted the believers in Antioch to continue in the Lord. Acts 11:22-23

II. THE MEANS OF THE EXHORTATION OF THE ONE WITH THE GIFT INCLUDE: A. The love shown by believers to one another. Philemon 7

B. Scripture is the means of exhortation.

1. The oral teaching of the Word was the source of exhortation in the early church. Acts 2:40

2. Many epistles were written to exhort believers to action. Acts. 15:30-32; Jude 3; 2 Co.2:5-9; 2 Thess. 2:7-12

C. Other believers. 2 Co. 7:6 (Titus)

III. EXHORTATION APPEALS TO THE HEART OF THE SAINT.

A. The human heart has three components.

1. The mind. Lk. 2:35; 5:22; 9:47; John 13:2; Acts 8:22

2. The will. 1 Co. 4:5; 2 Co. 9:7; Acts 11:23; 2:46

3. The emotions. Acts 14:17; Rom. 9:2; Lk. 4:18; 24:32; John 16:6, 22; Acts 2:26

B. The place the believer is comforted is in the heart.

1. The believer's heart is comforted as a result of grace. 2 Thess. 2:16-17
2. God's dealing with other believers. Eph. 6:21-22
3. The believer's heart is comforted by an understanding of the things believers share "In Christ". Col. 2:1-2

IV. RESULTS OF THE BELIEVER WITH THE GIFT OF EXHORTATION A. The

faith of believers is strengthened. 1 Thess. 3:1-3

B. Believers rejoice. Acts 15:30-31

C. Believers are motivated to endure circumstances. Heb. 13:22

V. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PERSON WITH THE GIFT OF EXHORTATION. A. They desire to see believers become all that God desires for them. B. They are unashamed in a direct appeal to believers to behavior better.

C. They can comfort believers who are weak-minded.

Faith 1st Co. 12:9

INTRODUCTION

The believer with the spiritual gift of faith has an above normal amount of faith that motivates the Body of Christ to believe God for the removal of obstacles in the Body of Christ as well as the lives of individual believers.

I. TO UNDERSTAND THE GIFT OF FAITH IT IS NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND HOW FAITH IS USED IN SCRIPTURE.

A. The word "faith" is "pistis" which is used 31 times in the New Testament for **the act of believing something that God has said**. cf. Rom. 4:5; 10:17; 1st Co. 2:5

B. There are two components to faith. Heb. 11:1

1. Substance of things hoped for.

a) "Substance", hupostasis is **the act of standing upon a thing; the basis for a belief; the confidence for operation**.

K.D.J. cf. Heb. 3:14

b) "Hoped for" is from elpizomenon (pres. pass. part.) -- expectations that are based upon a promise made by God to the believer. cf. Rom. 8:24 (it is not something seen); Rom. 4:20; Gal. 3:22 (a promise is necessary to have legitimate hope); Lk. 24:21 (Seen in the disciple's trust that Christ was the Messiah)

2. "The evidence of things not seen".

a) "Evidence", elegchos is **the provision of information that supports an assertion made**. cf. 2 Tim. 3:16 (Scripture is the basis for)

b) "Not seen" is "blepo" (pres. pass. part.), **that which is glanced at with the eye**. cf. Heb. 11:7; Gen. 6:13 (of the end of all mankind)

- C. God has to provide faith due to the fallen state of man.
 - 1. Faith is provided at initial salvation. 1st Co. 3:5; Phil. 1:28
 - 2. Faith is provided in present tense salvation. Gal. 5:24
- D. There are three types of faith seen in Scripture.
 - 1. The gift of faith is the faith given at salvation. Eph. 2:7-8; Phil. 1:29; 1 Co. 3:5 (Believing Faith)
 - 2. The measure of faith to use one's spiritual gift. Rom. 12:6
 - 3. The attitude of faith is when the believer orders his manner of life according to the things that God has promised. 2 Co. 5:7; (Rom. 4:19)

II. THERE ARE TWO PLACES THAT THE GIFT OF FAITH IS MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE.

- A. It is indirectly mentioned in 1st Corinthians by the apostle Paul. 1st Co. 13:2
 - 1. Paul uses the scenario (third class condition) of having possible gifts to make the point of the necessity of love.
 - 2. "As", here is a conjunction used to illustrate a point made. cf. Acts 15:39 (illustration of the dispute between Paul and Barnabas); Acts 16:26 (illustration of the magnitude of the earthquake)
 - a) "Remove" "methistemi", **to transpose, transfer, remove from one place to another; to change of situation or place.** -- Joseph Thayer
 - b) "Mountains" -- cf. Lk. 21:21
- B. It is mentioned in 1st Corinthians with many of the temporary gifts. 1st Co. 12:9

III. THE BELIEVER WITH THE GIFT OF FAITH CAN MOTIVATE OTHER BELIEVERS WITH OBSTACLES TO THEIR FAITH.

- A. The faith of believers can be undermined.
 - 1. By heresy. 2 Tim. 2:16-18 (2 Thess.2:1-2)
 - 2. Because of lack of knowledge concerning the believer's position in Christ. Philemon 6
- B. The believer with the gift of faith believes without doubting. Matt.21:21-22
- C. Believers can waver in faith. Rom. 14:23; James 1:6
- D. The results of the gift of faith to the Body of Christ.
 - 1. Believers are established. Rom. 1:11-12 (2 Peter 1:10-12)
 - 2. Believers are motivated to hope in God's promises. Heb. 6:12

Conclusion: The Gift of Exhortation will allow a believer to bring another believer to a right position through a rebuke, comforting, or clarification of some portion from the Word or through an act of Love. The Exhorter will always be spiritual and use the Fruit of the Spirit along with the Utterances of God. The Gift of Faith will be used by a believer to without doubt take what God has said and apply it to present circumstances. They will often motivate other believers to join

with them in some visionary pursuit in the Assembly.

*** Exhortation (παρακαλέω) “encouragement” Rom 12:8 A special ability to encourage and admonish believers in their hearts so that they will do a job or move into an appropriate activity.**

- Various church committees (benevolence, discipline, social, etc) ●
Committee Chairman

*** Faith (πίστις) 1 Cor. 12:9, 13:2 A special ability to have abundant faith that will remove obstacles to the work of God for the Body of Christ and the local church. ● Prayer meeting leader**

- Missionary committee
- Building committee