

Spiritual Gifts

Mercy

Overview

Mercy (eleeo), is found in Ro. 12:8. The believer with the gift of mercy has the ability to show pity on those who are suffering. Suffering can result from sin, sickness, or other types of distress. This mercy is over and above the love and kindness believers should have for each other as a result of the fruit of the Spirit in their lives. Those with mercy help to show clearly Christ like love in the local church.

Characteristics / Indicators of the Gift

1. The ability to show concern for believers suffering from the consequences of sin (instead of telling them they are getting what they deserve!).
2. The ability to identify with and comfort those in distress.
3. Not concerned with the reason for the need.
4. The ability to care for the sick and afflicted.
5. Showing pity for afflictions, trials, and sickness.
6. Ready to bring relief or meet needs of the distressed when able.
7. Organizing relief and assistance to those in need.
8. Demonstrates the way mercy can be shown in the church.

Areas of Service

The gift of mercy can be used in visiting those who are sick or shut in. Often those with mercy are on a Benevolence committee, provide meals, comfort and fellowship for those in need. Mercy can also be used in counseling those in distress.

Potential Dangers

1. Being proud of the ability to empathize.
2. Resenting those who are not sensitive to the needs of others.

3. Being guided by emotion.