

Stewards of Grace

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Filled For This

All scriptures use the English Standard Version (ESV) except where indicated

- 1 Peter 4
- We saw that we are stewards of God's grace.
- Our gifts are not really ours to own, but ours to steward.
- God gives the gift, God supplies the strength, and God receives the glory.
- 1 Corinthians 12 the Church is one body with many parts.

Exodus 31:1-2 1 The Lord said to Moses, 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah,

- He is an extremely important figure in the bible.
- He was the master craftsman

- Responsible for building the Tabernacle (place of worship) and the Ark of the Covenant (representation of God).
- You are gifted and your gift has value but your value is not your gift.
- You don't only matter to God when you do the right things.

Exodus 31:2-5 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, 4 to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze, 5 in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, to work in every craft.

- He is designing, working with gold, cutting stones, carving wood, building.
- God says “I filled him with My Spirit to do this work.”
- That doesn't mean every skill automatically equals a spiritual gift, but it means that God can

take practical ability and consecrate it for His purposes.

- It is not the gift that determines how it is used but the heart that determines how the gift is used.
- God gives gifts and assignments.
- Your gift answers “What has God put in me?”
- Your assignment answers, “Where does God want me to use it?”
- Those are not always identical.

2 Timothy 2:21 Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

- Give what you have to God and let him use it.

Exodus 31:6 And behold, I have appointed with him Oholiab, the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. And I have given to all able men ability, that they may make all that I have commanded you:

- He gave him a team.

- God's work is a collaboration of the body of Christ.
- Bezalel, Oholiab, gifted artisans.
- We don't do this for credit or status.
- We do it for the Lord.
- You do not have to be known by everybody to be known by God.
- Many people built the tabernacle but are nameless in the scriptures, but God knows them.
- The gift is not the destination; the presence of God is.
- John TB was the man to prepare the way for Jesus.
- When he was asked about Jesus starting to baptize people too he said:

John 3:26-30 26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, he who was with you across the Jordan, to whom you bore witness—look, he is baptizing, and all are going to him." 27 John answered, "A person cannot receive even one thing

unless it is given him from heaven. 28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before him.' 29 The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease."

- Bezalel's craftsmanship pointed beyond itself.
- He was preparing a place associated with God's dwelling among His people.
- The tabernacle wasn't the destination.
- It pointed forward to Jesus
- The Word who became flesh and dwelt among us.
- So our gifts are not the point either.
- Jesus is the point.