



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Roamin' In Romans Romans Chapter 12

Message preached on Wednesday, February 5th and 12th, 2025

A QUICK LOOK BACK: We are all IN THE BODY of Christ...but we all have different functions...purposes. We are ONE but DIFFERENT (unique).

There are three different lists of gifts that have been given to the BODY of Christ, in the New Testament.

Romans 12 – The Motivational Gifts (what motivates the parts of the body)

Ephesians 4 – The Ministry Gifts (what ministers to the body)

1 Corinthians 12 – The Manifestation Gifts (what manifests in the body)

NOTE: 1 Peter 4 gives us a few service gifts...but they all are listed right here in Romans 12.

(we will cover all of these gifts, to make sure we get the full picture of the body of Christ)

Last week we took a look at the MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS...or *what motivates the parts of the body*.

NOTE: I don't want to really spend a lot of time on this...but I do want to cover a few things.

A couple things can happen when you find out your motivational gifts...

1. You can finally understand why you are like you are...why others don't see things like you.
2. You can understand why others act like they act and become more IN TOUCH with them and what they need.
3. You can get LOCKED IN to your gift only and say, "That's not my gift."

NOTE: Make sure you don't do this one!

PROPHECY – see things as black and white, no inbetween...get to work.

This gifting just wants to get things done...no questions asked.

THOUGHT: A pastor can have this gift and what ends up happening is they run their church like the military. Everything in order...no questions asked. They can use it as an excuse to be mean and rude. Just because this is your gift does not mean you can be a jerk.

MINISTRY (servant) – see things to get done, driven to do it

1 Peter 4:9 – "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

1 Peter 4:11b – "...if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth..."

TEACHES – loves the Word...loves to share the Word

1 Peter 4:11a – "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God;"

NOTE: This doesn't make you a pastor...it just means you love to learn...love to share.

EXHORTED (building up) – they're gonna "pump you up"

GIVETH – sees financial needs, focuses on them

This is necessary...not necessarily for a pastor (always asking for money), yes, a pastor giving.

RULETH (administration) – facilitator, organizer

There are many people who do not do well as a facilitator...they would rather do everything by themselves (servant, giver, etc.) instead of asking others.

This gift gets other people involved.

IMPORTANT: Just because this is your gift...does NOT mean you don't do anything. That is lazy.

MERCY (kindness) – seeing the good in others

1 Peter 4:11c – "...that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

The Ministry Gifts

These are gifts that allow you to minister TO THE body.

Whereas everyone has a motivational gift...not everyone has a ministry gift listed in Ephesians 4.

YOU SAY: Well, that's not fair.

UNDERSTAND: When ONE person is doing something, and we are doing our part in the body, then we are all doing that part in the body. It makes an effective body (Ephesians 4:16).

REMEMBER: These gifts are for the body...TO THE CHURCH through the individual.

All these gifts are UNDER Christ. Jesus is the head of the church.

THEREFORE: The success of each of these offices lies in staying under Christ.

- * If you try to force you into one of these offices...you will struggle.
- * **ILLUSTRATION:** Keith Moore pastor friend.

ALSO: Many believe that the only of these gifts that are still existent in the church is the evangelist and pastor and teacher.

BELOVED: There was NEVER a time where they were stopped. They all are still in the church.

Ephesians 4:11 – "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"

We have come to know these as the FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY OFFICES...I am not going to argue it (per se) and I will probably continue to call it FIVE-FOLD...but it is actually the FOUR-FOLD ministry gifts.

"Pastor and Teacher" in the Greek is actually ONE OFFICE.

(WUEST) – "And He himself gave some, on the one hand, as apostles, and, on the other hand, as prophets, and still again some as bringers of good news, and finally, some as pastors who are also teachers."

SOME OF YOU MAY SAY: Well, I know I am a teacher, but I am not a pastor...well...

- * That would make sense...motivational gifts are teaching.
- * It doesn't make you a pastor.
- * Don't get offended if you don't feel like you are a pastor. Either you are ignoring God's call on your life or it is simply okay.

Ephesians 4:7 – "But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ."
The BIGGER the GIFT...the more grace you get.

NOW: Let's take a look at the four gifts.

UNDERSTAND: We are NOT going to go DEEP into each gift...just a rundown of what they are and their place in the BODY.

1. Apostles

MANY DECLARE: There are only 12 (with the possibility of Paul).

HOWEVER: In the New Testament there are AT LEAST 26 people identified as an apostle (men and women).

Revelations 2:2 – "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:"

NOTICE #1: Ephesus was not established until long after Jesus' death and resurrection...long past the 12 were established. So, there were more than 12.

NOTICE #2: There were a lot of people who wanted to be called Apostle...it seemed extra cool.

NOTICE #3: The church at Ephesus identified what an Apostle was...and tested those who said they were an apostle...and called them LIAR if they were not.

Biblical criteria of an apostle:

1.) Seen Jesus and witnessed the resurrection.

NOTE: This was the specific thing that was being looked for in Acts 1:21-22.

NOTE: This would really limit who could ever be an apostle in the future.

1 Corinthians 9:1 – “Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord?”

There is no where that Paul actually saw these things (in Scripture)...except on the Road to Damascus (and perhaps 2 Corinthians 12).

WHAT we can see is that an apostle is ONE who has experienced God...God has called Him, not a committee.

2.) Start and lead churches.

The very definition of APOSTOLOS, and use of the term means they WENT, BEGAN and LED.

You cannot be an apostle without GOING and STARTING churches and then staying connected to those churches.

3.) Signs, Wonders and Miracles.

2 Corinthians 12:12 – “The signs, indeed, of the apostle were worked among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds,”

2. Prophet

HONESTLY: If the New Testament were full of everyone wanting to be an apostle...today we are full of everyone wanting to be a prophet.

Then they can say, “Thus sayeth the Lord”...and everyone has to listen.

DEFINED: Prophets call God’s people back to relationship with Christ and tell of future things to come.

NOTE #1: They are not guessing of things to come...they are telling others what God has said.

NOTE #2: They are not using FOX NEWS and then using previous information to guess.

Evangelist are bringing people into the church.

Prophets get Christians lined up.

Again, Prophets are called by God...not men!

Prophets are known to be the ones who spend excess time before God...listening.

NOTE: Not saying the others don’t.

In the Old Testament prophets foretold many things:

- * The rise and fall of kings and kingdoms.
- * The coming invasions.
- * Season of economic blessing and hardship.
- * Weather patterns.
- * Times of captivity.

Talk about the difference between the people at Tyre, Philips daughters and Agabus in Acts 21.

3. Evangelist

“Evangelist” in Greek is a compound word that is as follows:

“eu” – something that is really good or swell

“angelos” – messenger

THEREFORE: An evangelist is a bringer of good news. They are supernaturally designed and equipped to be a channel of the Good News and God’s divine power.

They see things in terms of GETTING people saved...with signs and wonders.

4.) Pastor/Teacher

I would say there is more study material in existence on the pastor/teacher...because it is the most common. Even in Scripture there seems to be more said on the pastor than the other gifts.

STILL: A pastor is called by God...not by man...not by a desire to teach...not by an opinion that you can do better than who is currently up there.

NOTE: Often pastors are crippled because instead of being able to do what they are suppose to do...they have to serve, facilitate, evangelize, plus everything else in the church.

If the body is doing what the body should be done...the pastor will be able to do his part.

The pastor is placed over local bodies to be the shepherd.

Many people identify this gift as shepherding gift.

UNDERSTAND: A pastor is the servant of the people, but they are not his master.

John 10:11-12

- 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.

NOTE: A shepherd is NOT a hireling...or one that is just hired to take care of the sheep.

That does NOT mean that they are not paid. It means their call is the people, not the money.

1 Peter 5:2 – Not for filthy lucre...

Galatians 6:6 – “Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.”

Hebrews 13:17 – “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”

1 Peter 5:1-3

- 1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- 2 **Feed the flock of God** which is among you, **taking the oversight** thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
(NASB) – “shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not with greed but with eagerness;”
- 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but **being ensamples to the flock**.
“**Ensamples**” – an example, a copy, an image, a pattern, a model for others to follow, to imitate

Ezekiel 34:2-9

- 2 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel. Prophesy and say to those shepherds, ‘This is what the Lord GOD says: “Woe, **shepherds of Israel who have been feeding themselves! Should the shepherds not feed the flock?**”
- 3 “You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fat sheep without feeding the flock.
- 4 “**Those who are sickly you have not strengthened, the diseased you have not healed, the broken you have not bound up, the scattered you have not brought back, nor have you searched for the lost; but with force and with violence you have dominated them.**
- 5 “**They scattered for lack of a shepherd**, and they became food for every animal of the field and scattered.
- 6 “My flock strayed through all the mountains and on every high hill; My flock was scattered over all the surface of the earth, and **there was no one to search or seek for them.**””
- 7 Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:
- 8 “As I live,” declares the Lord GOD, “certainly, because My flock has become plunder, and My flock has become food for all the animals of the field for lack of a shepherd, and My shepherds did not search for My flock, but rather the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock,
- 9 therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:

YA, SURE: It is easy being a pastor!

REAL QUICK: Pastors are called to be teachers too. You cannot be a pastor without being a teacher!

Ya! True story.

“Teacher” – to teach, to inform, to instruct, to demonstrate, to prescribe, also paints the picture of relationship between teacher and pupil.

NOTE: Final point. Pastors will love the sheep. Relationship with them. Feed them!