
If as yet, you are not sure, just ask the Lord to show you and begin to do anything you like doing; but do it for God and the body of Christ, and it will, eventually, lead you to your gift. As you grow in that gift, out of it many more will evolve.

When you operate, fully, in your gift, you are fulfilling your place in the body of Christ. It doesn't matter if it is scrubbing the toilets, or teaching a class, you are the body of Christ, and you are not left out, for you are just as important as that "man of God" who is constantly recognized on TV. He---- just like you----is only "fulfilling his ministry" in the body. In the body of Christ, men do not select their gift. God does!

The Offices and Gifts and Their Significance:

- (1) Apostles = One sent; called and commissioned directly by Christ to be His witness
- (2) Prophets = Called to predict the course of redemptive history, proclaim God's message, and exhort
- (3) Teachers = Key figures in presenting and interpreting the teachings of the Old and New Testaments and the doctrines of the Church
- (4) Miracles = The "supernatural" performed through the anointing of the Holy Spirit: impossible from the standpoint of human ability
- (5) Gifts of Healings = Supernatural healings: both instantaneous and progressive, through the anointing

FOURTEENTH STUDY

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT CONTINUED

THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS (Ephesians 4:11-14)

Let's not mistake the nine gifts of the Spirit with the five-fold ministry gifts. The five-fold ministry gifts are to the body of Christ, whereas the nine gifts of the Spirit are for the body of Christ to operate through the whole body supernatural manifestations.

1. Name the five-fold ministry gifts listed in Ephesians 4:11. (1) _____ (2) _____
(3) _____ (4) _____
(5) _____

Some group pastors and teachers together, but they can all be chained together, because a pastor, etc., can operate in all five, --and most of the time they do operate in two or more.

2. In Ephesians 4:12, we find the two purposes for the Church being given the five-fold ministry gifts. Name them. (1) _____
_____ (2) _____

3. What will happen to us in the body of Christ when the five-fold ministry gifts are in operation? (Ephesians 4:13) _____

The Church needs an all around spiritual growth to come into maturity. For without that spiritual growth, we will be like children always changing our minds about what we believe. There is sound doctrine to be learned. There are many “know-it-all” wolves out there, cleverly speaking lies to the sheep trying to make a lie into the truth.

To prove this, look at Ephesians 4:14 -

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

Immature Christians, if they have not been taught the Word, will not know a lie when they hear it. They are like ships tossed to and fro in a storm and whirled about by every fresh gust of teaching.

Those who introduce false teaching, to which unstable believers fall prey, are not only deceived themselves, but they **lie in wait to deceive** others. This is an inadequate translation and might better be rendered “makes use of every shifting device to mislead” (Weymouth). They employ **sleight** (lit., dice playing). Metaphorically, it can mean “trickery” (RSV). The warning of Paul is stated well by Moule: “For alas, there are those around you who not only do lead you astray, but mean to do it, laying deliberate traps, and arranging well-drawn methods, on purpose to guide you away from the

Christ they do not love.” The only adequate safeguard against the subtlety of heresy is a growing faith and an increasing knowledge of the truth. Ministers must provide the opportunity for such maturation and thus ensure stability in the church. ¹

4. According to Ephesians 4:15, what wills the Church to do when *the truth* is spoken *in love*?

When this happens, *the whole body* will be fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, and there will be an increase of *the body* (in spiritual growth as well as numerical growth) *unto the edifying* (or building up) *of itself in love.* (Ephesians 4:16)

THE DIFFERENT FUNCTIONS OF ALL CHRISTIANS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST (I Corinthians 12:27-30)

Many don’t understand their place in the body of Christ they say like Paul expressed in I Corinthians 12:29: *Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers are all workers of miracles?*

1. Look over the ministry gifts mentioned in I Corinthians 12:28. Find a gift (or gifts) in which you know you operate. List them here:

1- Beacon Bible Commentary, Galatians through Philemon, p. 211.