

THE CALLING GIFTS

Spirit Gifted - May 2, 2021

Ephesians 4:7-8, 11 However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ. ⁸That is why the Scriptures say, "When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people." ... (TPT) ... And he has appointed some *with grace* to be **apostles**, and some *with grace* to be **prophets**, and some *with grace* to be **evangelists**, and some *with grace* to be **pastors**, and some *with grace* to be **teachers**.

JESUS' GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

I. _____ - messenger, one sent forth with orders

Luke 6:13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles:

Luke 9:1-2 Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.

A. Apostles' mission is to grow or _____ the church.

Romans 1:5 Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority as **apostles** to tell Gentiles everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name.

B. _____, signs, and wonders confirm an apostolic calling.

Acts 2:43 The **apostles** performed many miraculous signs and wonders.

2 Corinthians 12:12 When I was with you, I certainly gave you proof that I am an apostle. For I patiently did many signs and wonders and miracles among you.

II. _____ - an interpreter of hidden things; empowered to instruct, encourage, rebuke, convict, and stimulate, their hearers

Ephesians 2:20 Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself.

Acts 13:1-3 Among the **prophets** and teachers of the church at Antioch of Syria were Barnabas, Simeon (called "the black man"), Lucius (from Cyrene), Manaen (the childhood companion of King Herod Antipas), and Saul. ² One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them." ³ So after more fasting and prayer, the men laid their hands on them and sent them on their way.

A. Prophets speak _____ to the church

2 Peter 1:20-21 Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, ²¹ or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.

B. Prophets speak for edification, exhortation, & _____

1 Corinthians 14:2-3 One who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them.

III. _____ - bringer of good tidings (good news), proclaimers of salvation through Christ

2 Timothy 4:5 But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry. NLT Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.

IV. _____ - herdsman, shepherd, an overseer or bishop

1 Timothy 3:1-7 This is a trustworthy saying: "If someone aspires to be a church leader, he desires an honorable position." ² So a church leader must be a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. ³ He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money. ⁴ He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him. ⁵ For if a man cannot manage his own household, how can he take care of God's church? ⁶ A church leader must not be a new

believer, because he might become proud, and the devil would cause him to fall. ⁷ Also, people outside the church must speak well of him so that he will not be disgraced and fall into the devil's trap.

A shepherds' tasks are:

- a. to _____ for enemies trying to attack the sheep
- b. to _____ the sheep from attackers
- c. to _____ the wounded and sick sheep
- d. to find and save lost or trapped sheep

V. _____ - instructor concerning things of God, and duties of man

1 Corinthians 12:28 Here are some of the parts God has appointed for the church: first are apostles, second are prophets, third are teachers.

2 Timothy 4:3 A time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for **teachers** who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear.

MEANING AND PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS

Ephesians 4:12-16 Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever, they sound like the truth. ¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love the truth.

I. _____ God's People for Ministry

II. _____ the Body of Christ.

III. OUTCOME: a _____, functioning, united body.

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