

“The Gifts of Working of Miracles, Mercy, Helps, and Ministry” (Part 6 of 16)

1 Cor. 12:10, 28-29; Romans 12:7-8

1 Corinthians 12:10, 28-29

10 to another **the working of miracles**, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that **miracles**, then gifts of healings, **helps**, administrations, varieties of tongues.

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? **Are all workers of miracles?**

Romans 12:7-8 or **ministry, let us use it in our ministering**; he who teaches, in teaching;

8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; **he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.**

1 Corinthians 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one . . . individually . . . as He wills.**

1. to each one
2. individually
3. as He wills

Gift of the Working of Miracles:

- **“workings of miracles”** (ενεργηματα δυναμεων [*energēmata dunameon*]). Workings of powers. Cf. ενεργων δυναμεις [*energon dunameis*] in Gal. 3:5 and Heb. 2:4 where all three words are used (σημεια [*semeia*], signs, τερατα [*terata*], wonders, δυναμεις [*dunameis*], powers). (RWP)
 - **“dunamis” – dynamite**
- ***The special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through it pleases God to perform powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature.***
(C.Peter Wagner, *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church To Grow*, pg 237)
- **Thomas Aquinas** called the gift of miracles ***“the winged sandals and the staff of the messengers.”***

John 14:12-14 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; **and greater (quantity) works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that

the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.

Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are **endued (clothed) with power from on high.**”

Galatians 3:26-28 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 **For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gifts of Mercy, Helps, and Ministry: “Three grapes on the same cluster.”

- *The highest percentage gifts in the church with the lowest visibility. Most Christians aren't aware of these gifts being exercised around them by others.*
- *Gifts that don't attract much attention, publicity, or recognition.*
- *The stronger the gift, the more mature the Christian – the less need for public attention, publicity, or recognition.*
- *Every Christian is expected to be merciful, helping, and ministering.*
 - *Fruit of the Holy Spirit in one's life.*

1. Mercy with cheerfulness: *“The special ability to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals, both Christian and non-Christian, who suffer distressing physical, mental or emotional problems, and to translate that compassion into cheerfully-done deeds that reflect Christ's love.*”

Psalm 136

- 1 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for *He is good!* For His mercy *endures* forever.
- 2 Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy *endures* forever.
- 3 Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy *endures* forever:
- 4 To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 5 To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 6 To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 7 To Him who made great lights, For His mercy *endures* forever—
- 8 The sun to rule by day, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 9 The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy *endures* forever.
- 10 To Him who struck Egypt in their firstborn, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 11 And brought out Israel from among them, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 12 With a strong hand, and with an outstretched arm, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 13 To Him who divided the Red Sea in two, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 14 And made Israel pass through the midst of it, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his army in the Red Sea, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 16 To Him who led His people through the wilderness, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 17 To Him who struck down great kings, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 18 And slew famous kings, For His mercy *endures* forever—
- 19 Sihon king of the Amorites, For His mercy *endures* forever;
- 20 And Og king of Bashan, For His mercy *endures* forever—

21 And gave their land as a heritage, For His mercy *endures* forever;
22 A heritage to Israel His servant, For His mercy *endures* forever.
23 Who remembered us in our lowly state, **For His mercy *endures* forever;**
24 And rescued us from our enemies, **For His mercy *endures* forever;**
25 Who gives food to all flesh, For **His mercy *endures* forever.**
26 Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For **His mercy *endures* forever.**

James 2:13 For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy.
Mercy triumphs over judgment.

- *Particularly helpful to those who have received no help from others or clearly do not deserve help from others.*
- *Sees beyond previous actions that may have disqualified that person from help.*
- *Sees beyond continuous sinful habits that may keep someone helpless.*
 - *Drug abuse.*
 - *Poor financial management.*
 - *Continuing unlawful activity*
- *Cannot rest until mercy, through grace (unmerited favor), has been extended to another.*
- *Finally – if it's not your greatest joy, done with complete cheerfulness, to be merciful then you need your gift matured.*

2. Helps: *“The special ability that God gives to invest the talents they have in the life and ministry of others.”*

- *“Because there are so many things that need to be done if a church is to sustain a full ministry, I think the gift of Helps is one of the most important in the body of Christ.”*

(Chuck Smith, Living Waters, pg 195)

Numbers 11:16-17 So the LORD said to Moses: “Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

17 Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put *the same* upon them; and **they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.**

Acts 9:36-43 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. **This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.**

37 But it happened in those days that she became sick and died. When they had washed her, they laid *her* in an upper room.

38 And since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to him, imploring *him* not to delay in coming to them.

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he had come, they brought *him* to the upper room. **And all the widows stood by him weeping, showing the tunics and garments which Dorcas had made while she was with them.**

40 But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, "Tabitha, arise." And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.

41 Then he gave her *his* hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive.

42 And it became known throughout all Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

43 So it was that he stayed many days in Joppa with Simon, a tanner.

- **John Newton**, whose own conversion is reflected in his beloved hymn "Amazing Grace," had these words put on his tombstone: "A servant of slaves."
-- Robert C. Shannon, 1000 Windows, (Cincinnati, Ohio: Standard Publishing Company, 1997).
- **William Booth**, founder of the Salvation Army, was interviewed near the close of his life. This is what he said: "God had all there was of me. There have been others who had greater plans, greater opportunities than I; but from the day I got a vision of what God could do, I made up my mind God would have all there was of William Booth."
-- Robert C. Shannon, 1000 Windows, (Cincinnati, Ohio: Standard Publishing Company, 1997).

3. Ministry: *"The special ability to see and identify the unmet needs of others. A Godly concern for people in need within the body. "*

(C.Peter Wagner, *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church To Grow*, pg 224)

- Holy Spirit inspired Social worker
- Can see things that need to be done without being told and would rather do it themselves than tell someone else to do it.
- Usually a one-on-one ministry – much like the gift of mercy but not to just the helpless.
- The ability to use what you have to make possible the things that seem impossible.

1 Corinthians 12:20-26 But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body.

21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

23 And those *members* of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our un-presentable *parts* have greater modesty,

24 but our presentable *parts* have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that *part* which lacks it,

25 that there should be no schism in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another.

26 **And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with *it*; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with *it*.**