

VICTORIOUS LIFE CHURCH BIBLE STUDY SERIES: DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS- UNLEASHING YOUR POTENTIAL IN THE SPIRIT. BISHOP WILLIAM LEE

GRACE GIFTS: PART ONE

We will begin our study of the third Spiritual Gift category- The Grace Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4-5

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. 5 There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. (NIV)

Romans 12:3-63

For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith;

**GRACE GIFTS. PROPHESYING TEACHING GIVING SHOWING MERCY,
SERVING ENCOURAGING LEADING**

I. Basic Considerations About Grace Gifts

- A. Every Christian has been given a Grace Gift as His/Her permanent endowment
- B. Grace Gifts are the result of God's Grace (Romans 12:6)
 - 1. No gift is given on the basis of personal merit as a type of spiritual reward.
 - 2. All of God's dealing with people is based on grace- His unmerited Favor.
- C. Grace Gifts become a means of grace

(1 Peter 4:10-11) (NIV)

10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Peter gives two broad categories of Spiritual Gifts- 1. speaking gifts and 2. serving gifts.
Whatever the gift, its purpose is to minister the grace of God in its various forms.

D. Grace Gifts relate directly to ones ministry as a priest unto God

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

1. This passage deals with the subject of priesthood (e.g. offering sacrifices, spiritual worship).

2. Grace gifts are set in the context of the believers priestly ministry.

E. Each Grace gift is valuable to the Body of Christ

Romans 1:4-5 (NIV)

4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.

F. Each grace gifts has a corresponding Christian virtue that every Christian should aspire

II. Defining Grace Gifts

A. A grace gift is a supernatural endowment, given by the Holy Spirit to each believers, by which he/she becomes an instrument of God's grace within the Body of Christ

B. Definitions of Individual Gifts

Prophecy (perception): The Ability and the Desire to readily perceive the will of God and labor for its accomplishment.

Serving: The Ability and the desire to see the practical needs of the work of God and to meet these needs through serving.

Teaching: The ability and the desire to search truth's and to present it in a way that leads to proper understanding.

Encouraging: The ability and the desire to see truths life application and to stimulate the faith of others toward such application.

Giving: The ability and the desire to use such material means to bless those in need and to bless the ministry of Christ.

Ruling: The ability and the desire to coordinate the activities of others in order to achieve God-honoring goals in ministry.

Showing Mercy: The ability and the desire to sense the distress of others and to bring consolation to them.

III. Identifying Your Gifts

A. Why we should seek to identify our grace gift.

1. The Scriptural Admonition
2. To Lessen frustration and to maximize effectiveness
3. To develop our gift

B. Four Steps to discovering your grace gift.

1. Do a thorough study of the grace gifts
2. Analyze yourself from Background information
3. Seek the advice and counsel of others
4. Confirm your gift through service

C. There is more emphasis in the Bible on ministering with your gift than on discovering your gift.

1. Spiritual gift discovery is not seen as some type of personal identity process.
2. A persons desire to discover his/her gift should be fueled by his/her desire to do the work of God.

Conclusion: In the final two sessions we will explore the following issues

A. The characteristics and weaknesses of each gift

B. A New Testament example of people with each of the grace gifts.

C. Some suggestions on ministries each grace gift lends itself.