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Motivational Gifts And Weaknesses

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The purpose of teaching is to reveal knowledge and truth to us so that we would understand ourselves better and understand other members of the body of Christ. It will help us to understand why we do the things we do and help us to understand why others in the body are the way they are and why they do some of the things they do.

There are seven gifts that are mentioned in the following *scriptures and are known as the motivational gifts or what motivates us to do certain things. They are also called the foundational gifts, there are seven which denotes completeness.

These are not the five-fold ministry gifts we find in Ephesians and they are not the gifts of the spirit found in 1st Corinthians.

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

1 Cor 12:4-9 "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;" KJV

Many will have a strong ministry gift, followed with another gift, example; having an prophecy gift with a second gift being mercy.

*Rom 12:4-10 "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the *grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. 9 Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. 10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;" KJV

*grace gives the ability to function in a measure that we cannot do on our own, takes us beyond our

own strength and gifting

Rom 12:4-11 "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, 5 so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. 6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things *well. So if God has given you the ability to prophecy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. 7 If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. 8 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly. 9 Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. 10 Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. 11 Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically." NLT

* well or excellence

As we function in our motivational gifts or what motivates and drives us, we find without love regardless of what area the gift is coming from, it may come across hard and brash and uncaring. It must be bathed in the love of God.

We may see that we function in more than one of the gifts, but that there is one that dominates that makes us the way we are and effects our personality, it will effect our outlook on life and how we look at other people.

1) Prophecy - is a proclaimer of truth, will be direct, black and white, saying things like they are, will be able to discern motives and actions of people, can be persuasive in relationship to what they believe to be true and correct, stand for what they believe and are not afraid to speak out, will make opportunities to speak out

2) Ministry or Serving - a true New Testament deacon is one who serves, that is what motivates them

3) Teaching - taking the word of God, making it simple, line upon line, precept upon precept, will use the gift of teaching in every area of their lives, regardless of what their jobs may be, wanting to teach others

4) Exhortation - an encourager, giving encouragement to others, speaking encouraging words, giving life to us

5) Giver or Giving

6) Management or Organization

7) Mercy or Compassion - identify with people who are having problems or are in trouble, wanting to help them.

Example of spilling a glass of water was used, what were the gifts that were used and who used them? a server wanting to get the spill cleaned up, a teacher would have figured out where the glass should have been set in order not to spill, a gift of exhortation would be saying, no big deal it will be alright no need to get upset, a giver would have said just get a new glass to replace the broken one, call the carpet

cleaners, a gift of management or organization would have had something near by that would help in the clean up, making sure that it was done properly, change the position of the glass first so that it wouldn't be in the way, a gift of mercy would make the person spilling the water not feel bad about the spilling, try to ease them from the hurt of making a mess, no one was hurt, let me help you, don't be intimidated by it.

Were you able to identify with any of these gifts? This would explain why we are the way we are and why it is so important to walk in love. Jesus demonstrated many of these gifts during His time here on earth, setting an example for us to follow.

There is another side to these gifts, they are called weaknesses and are because of having no love for others, not being bathed in the love of God, the following weaknesses will be a part of your life, even though the gift is in you, it becomes your choice on how you operate the gift that has been given to you.

1) Prophecy - brash or harsh, uncaring and sometimes act as a dictator, having trouble with personal relationships with others, not speaking truth in love, you will drive people away from you (* these scriptures speak of how a person with a gift of prophecy should be speaking toward others, love and encouragement)

* Eph 4:29 "Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor unwholesome or worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is good *and* beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need *and* the occasion, that it may be a blessing and give grace (God's favor) to those who hear it." AMP

* Eph 4:29 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers." KJV

2) Server - to busy with everyday things, not spending time with the Lord and keeping fellowship with Jesus current even though they want to, like to hear the word "thank you, for a job well done" if not heard can cause them to feel rejected or hurt if love hasn't been part of what is said, they have the inability to say "no" or prioritize where their responsibility or loyalty should be, they try to please everyone but don't please the one they are serving, they cannot please everyone, it will cause them to be distracted, becoming distracted by trying to do too many things, they get strung out and can't accomplish anything, they just quit because they didn't stay focused.

3) Teacher - becomes so engrossed in study or research that the teaching is a bunch of facts, there is no anointing on it, no Holy Spirit involvement, it can be sensed while listening because the spirit of God is not there. A teacher will have to get away, spend quality time on meditation in the word in order to hear from the Lord.

4) Exhortation - wanting to use themselves as examples of how others should or could be, magnify examples of experiences that have happened over what the

scripture says, would like to see people make changes in their lives quickly, are not always as practical as they can be, may need approval, insecure or second guessing themselves when trying to help others, to quick in responses, need to wait on God

5) Giving - focus on natural items, attempts to control money and how it should be spent, everyone should be giving, not showing thankfulness in challenging or difficult times, not consistent in giving thanks

6) Organization or Administration - will do things by themselves so it gets done right

7) Mercy - sees hurts but by misreading actions can get into trouble, led by wrong feelings, trying to make changes with no Holy Spirit leading, inferring with God and what He is trying to do with them.

Rom 12:5 "so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." NLT

As we begin to be aware of these foundational or motive gifts, we must keep in line with God's thoughts, not criticizing others but learning to discern each other and remember to walk in love, realizing that we all make up the body of Christ and we all belong to each other. This local body of believers has all the gifts working in their lives.