

Today's Study

Spiritual Gifts
"Understanding the Gifts, Part 10"

Today's Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

⌘ The Gift of Voluntary Poverty

Definition:

- ♦ The gift of voluntary poverty is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to _____ and _____ and adopt a personal lifestyle equivalent to those living at the _____ in a given society in order to serve God more effectively.

Biblical References:

- ♦ 1 Corinthians 13:3
- ♦ Acts 2:44-45 & 4:32-35: The believers voluntarily _____ they had.
- ♦ Acts 4:36-37: Joseph / Barnabas voluntarily sold _____.

Purpose:

- ◆ To be an effective witness to those who live in low economic status so as to _____ with and minister to the poor and oppressed.

Characteristics:

- ◆ Able to _____ give away possessions and money without worry, and without any public recognition.
- ◆ It is usually not a gift by _____, usually coupled with other gifts related to _____ the body.
- ◆ You are able to be _____ in all things.
“For I have learned to be content whatever the circumstance.”
Philippians 4:11b (NIV)
- ◆ You have an attitude of _____ regarding your call, not a _____ spirit.
- ◆ You have an ability to _____ and _____ with those in a lower economic bracket, and embrace their economic lifestyle.

Cautions:

- ◆ Putting _____ on others who are unwilling to make the sacrifice that God has gifted you to do.
- ◆ Feeling that _____ is called to live this way.

SEE: 2 Corinthians 8:1-4

+The poverty that the Macedonian church found itself in, they dealt with it and endured it, but they did not _____.

SEE: Revelation 2:9

+The poverty of the church in Smyrna was _____. Their "_____” came in other ways.

- ◆ Using this gift to bring _____ to yourself and your sacrifice, and forgetting its intended purpose to spread the gospel more effectively.

Something to Consider:

- ◆ Did Jesus exercise voluntary poverty?

SEE: Matthew 8:20

“Jesus replied, ‘Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.’”

Jesus lived His life as an example for the sake of the lost, in order for them to become spiritually rich. (ie. Give them _____.)

⌘ The Gift of Martyrdom

Definition:

- ◆ The supernatural capacity to be willing to joyfully _____ and _____ for the sake of the kingdom of God.
- ◆ It is the special ability that God gives certain members in the body of Christ to undergo _____ even to the point of _____, while consistently displaying a joyous and victorious attitude which brings glory to God.

Biblical References:

- ◆ 1 Corinthians 13:3
- ◆ Acts 7:54 – 8:1
- ◆ Revelation 20:4
- ◆ Matthew 5:10-12
- ◆ Acts 12:1-5
- ◆ Acts 20:22-24
- ◆ Acts 21:13
- ◆ Philippians 1:20

Quote from Pastor Jeff:

“The problem with the Gift of Martyrdom is that you will only use it _____!”

(4-8-08)

Characteristics:

- ◆ Freely willing to _____ while others would choose to live on and share their gifts.
- ◆ It not only is the willingness to die for your faith, but the willingness to _____ for the faith!

Deeper Study...

I have discovered that the Gift of Martyrdom is multifaceted – willing to die, or willing to suffer, and one’s _____ toward their call comes into play...

LOOK AT: Acts 7:59-60

+ Stephen displayed the attitude of _____.

LOOK AT: 1 Peter 2:20-23

† Having _____, _____ in God, absence of a _____ spirit, following Christ's example.

LOOK AT: 1 Peter 4:12-16

† Having an attitude of _____; _____ God in all things.

Question:

How does the Gift of Martyrdom contribute to building up the church?

SEE: Acts 8:1-4

† It _____ the church geographically, and put them in contact with _____ people.

SEE: Acts 12:1-5

† It drives the church to _____.

SEE: Philippians 1:12-14

† It inspires believers to proclaim Jesus more _____.

Question:

Is the experience of suffering for the faith limited to those with the Gift of Martyrdom?

SEE: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

+ _____, everyone who truly desires to live for Jesus Christ has the potential of being persecuted to _____.

Cautions:

- ◆ Thinking that everything that doesn't _____, or every difficulty is some form of persecution of the faith. (ie. Sometimes it is God's _____.)
- ◆ _____ situations and not being called into that situation to which martyrdom will be required.
- ◆ Having a “_____” attitude regarding suffering for the faith.

Final Thought:

"I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony for Jesus and because of the Word of God. They had not worshipped the beast or his image and had not received his mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

Revelation 20:4 (NIV)

- ◆ High _____ and _____ will be given to those who have been martyred for the faith!