



## The Five Ministry Gifts

### Lesson 1: Introduction to the Ministry Gifts – He Gave Gifts to Men

#### 1. The ministry gifts listed and explained in Ephesians chapter four

**Ephesians 4:8-16**

#### 2. What are the ministry gifts?

Ephesians 4:11 says He gave \_\_\_\_\_

Then the scriptures lists five specific callings or offices in which He gave some.

He did not give these to all Christians. Certain people operate in these gifts.

- Apostles
- Prophets
- Evangelists
- Pastors
- Teachers

#### 3. Where did the gifts come from?

**Ephesians 4:8**

When Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave the gifts to men.

Definition of MEN: Humans; men and women. It is a gender-neutral term used for humans.

Notice that the Bible calls the people gifts. Those who stand in these offices are gifts to the Body of Christ.

Think about it – How do you treat a gift?

#### 4. Why did He give these gifts?

##### **Ephesians 4:12**

- For the perfecting (training, equipping) of the saints for the work of the ministry
- \_\_\_\_\_

##### **Ephesians 4:12 - New Living Translation**

*Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.*

The five ministry gifts are not given to do all the work while the church stands by and watches.

Their job is to train and equip the church so that the church can do the work of the ministry.

#### 5. What will these five ministry gifts ultimately accomplish in the church?

If the five ministry gifts are completing their function in the church, the following will take place:

##### **Ephesians 4:13-16**

##### **Ephesians 4:13-16 - The Living Bible**

**Ephesians 4:13**     *This will continue (the gifts) until we all come to such unity (attain oneness) 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.*

**Ephesians 4:14**     *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. (We will not be deceived but grounded in the Word)*

**Ephesians 4:15**     *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.*

**Ephesians 4:16**     *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.*

When the gifts do their job the Body of Christ will:

- Be unified not divided
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Measure up to the full and complete standard of Jesus
- Not be like immature children
- Not be tossed and blown when there is a storm
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Not be influenced by other people, especially people who try to trick and lie to us
- Speak the truth in love
- Be continually growing to be more Christ-like and Christ-centered
- \_\_\_\_\_
- Walk in their own anointing and function joyfully
- Be strong and healthy which means living in victory
- Be full of love

As believers we are supposed to model our lives after the life of Jesus.

However, as an individual you will never attain to the full status of Christ's perfection and power alone. As a matter of fact, most of the things on this list we will never attain.

If you could do it on your own, you would not need the Body of Christ.

There is a reason for the Body of Christ. We need one another. \_\_\_\_\_

As the Body of Christ, we can attain the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. We can be mature and be completely like Him

To reach that maturity. Jesus gave these five gifts to help us, to equip us, to encourage us, to teach us, to train us, and to build us up.

These five gifts Jesus gave to man when he ascended to Heaven were not just random callings or job descriptions. They are five facets (aspects, parts) of the ministry of Jesus Himself.

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## 6. Teacher

Who was a greater teacher than Jesus?

Jesus was a known Rabbi.

**John 1:49**

**John 9:2**

The word Rabbi was an official title of honor used by the Jews to address or refer to their teacher. It literally means “My teacher or My Master”.

What did a Rabbi do?

- A Rabbi is a Jewish scholar or teacher.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- He was responsible for all marriages.
- He conducted all the religious services and ceremonies.
- \_\_\_\_\_

In the days of Jesus, Rabbis would take a group of students to teach and train them just like Jesus did with His disciples. It was the Rabbi's responsibility to take care of his group of students. He provided their food, lodging, and clothing.

If you were a talented young student, you would “shop” around for the Rabbi who would give you the best deal - like an “employment package”. The more qualified you were as a student, the better the teacher you would attract.

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In John chapter seven we see that the religious leaders were offended by a lot of the things Jesus said.

**John 7:32**

**John 7:44-46**

Jesus spoke boldly and with authority as he taught the people

Jesus astonished the people with his teaching

In Matthew chapter seven, Jesus taught all kinds of principles from the law.

- Not judging others
- Not being a hypocrite
- Ask and it will be given
- What you want men to do to you do to them
- Bearing good fruit
- Building your life on a good foundation
- Knowing God

**Matthew 7:28, 29**

By the time Jesus finished speaking the crowds were dazed and overwhelmed by His teaching

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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Not like the Scribes – Who were they?

- The scribes were the most intelligent and learned in Israel.
- They were considered masters of the Hebrew law.
- Their job was to copy the Bible on scrolls. They committed their life to preserving and copying the scriptures
- They were considered the authority when it came to the law.
- If anyone had authority on matters of scriptures in Jesus times it was the Scribes.

The root word of authority “author”.

When Jesus spoke, He was not repeating some information he had copied, read, or learned from someone else like the Scribes did.

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Jesus was the author of what the scribes were writing because He is the Word.

### **John 1:1**

Scribes were like teachers teaching out a textbook, but Jesus is the textbook!

Jesus is the greatest teacher who ever lived.

### **7. Prophet**

What about a prophet? Is there a greater prophet that ever walked the earth than Jesus?

A prophet is the voice of God in the earth.

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### **Hebrews 1:1, 2**

Jesus is the voice of God in the earth.

God told Moses someday He would send another Prophet to Israel.

### **Deuteronomy 18:18**

Jesus was the prophet that fulfilled this prophecy.

### **Acts 3:20-22**

Jesus was sent from Heaven to earth as God's spokesman.

On the Mount of Transfiguration Jesus met with two of the greatest prophets from the Old Testament – Moses and Elijah.

### **Deuteronomy 34:10**

Moses was the prophet through whom the law was given.

The people of the day called Jesus a prophet,

After the miracle when Jesus fed the five thousand the people said Jesus was a prophet.

**John 6:14**

When Jesus enter Jerusalem on a donkey the week before He died, the crowds called him a prophet.

**Matthew 21:11**

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**Mark 6:3, 4**

**8. Apostle**

Jesus is the Great Apostle.

**Hebrews 3:1**

What is an apostle? – \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus was sent by God the Father from Heaven to the earth to accomplish a specific mission.

**John 6:29**

**John 6:38**

**John 16:5**

**9. Pastor**

Who is a greater pastor than Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

In Latin the word “pastor” is the word for “shepherd”.

When Jesus says He is the Good Shepherd, He is saying He is the Good Pastor

**John 10:11**

“I am the good pastor. The good pastor gives His life for the sheep.

**John 10:14**

I am the good pastor, and I know My sheep and I am know by My own.

**John 10:4**

When the Good Pastor brings out his sheep, He goes before them and the sheep follow Him and know His voice.

## **10. Evangelist**

Jesus was the ultimate evangelist.

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Jesus did not just go from one country to another; He came from Heaven to earth to seek and save that which was lost.

### **Luke 19:10**

He came to share the Good News of salvation through faith in Him.

He lived a life of love, compassion, and selflessness.

He demonstrated the power of the Gospel to transform lives.

His ministry serves as an example for all believers about how to share the Gospel with others.

Throughout His ministry, Jesus preached the Gospel and taught about the Kingdom.

He healed the sick, cast out demons, and performed many other miracles as signs of the Good News He was bringing.

He also sent the disciples out to do the same.

He commanded us to do the same.

He preached to the multitudes.

### **Luke 5:1**

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### **Matthew 9:36-38**

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He always took time to stop and minister to the person in front of Him

- Woman with the issue of blood
- The woman at the well

- The woman caught in adultery
- Blind Bartimaeus
- Nicodemus
- The leper
- Zacchaeus

## **11. Conclusion**

The five ministry gifts are not random. They are specific aspects of Jesus own ministry.

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When Jesus ascended into Heaven, He made provision for His agenda to continue His ministry on the earth by giving some men and women these five gifts.

These gifts are needed to equip the saints to do the work of His ministry and to edify the Body of Christ.

Notice he dispersed those gifts. He did not give all of them to one person. He gave them to multiple people.

To continue His ministry to the full extent, we have no alternative but to work with each other. We need each other.

If we function the way we read in this chapter then we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.