

“What We Teach – A Journey thru the KBC Doctrinal Statement” Week 12, “Spiritual Gifts - Edifying”, March 27, 2022

WE TEACH that the ONLY GIFTS IN OPERATION TODAY are the PERMANENT, EDIFYING GIFTS (1 Peter 4:10-11).

SPEAKING GIFTS: Many of God’s servants are equipped to VERBALIZE THE FAITH.

- 1) **Wisdom** (1 Cor 12:8) The Spirit-given ability to apply God’s truth to difficult circumstances and to complex problems. Wisdom casts light on an otherwise perplexing problem.
- 2) **Knowledge** (1 Cor 12:8) The Spirit-given ability to comprehend and then verbalize the deep truths of God’s Word with clear words that are helpful to others.
- 3) **Prophecy** (in the sense of speaking *in front of*) (1 Cor 12:28; Romans 12:6) The Spirit-given ability to proclaim the Word of God with clarity, and to apply it in such a way that it will edify the church. Prophecy speaks primarily of the preacher.
- 4) **Teaching** (1 Cor 12:28; Romans 12:7; Ephesians 4:11) The Spirit-given ability to systematically instruct people in the doctrines of the Christian faith and to encourage obedience to the teachings of the Bible.
- 5) **Pastors** (Shepherds) (Ephesians 4:11) The Spirit-given ability to lead, assist, protect and care for God’s people, and to lead them into a deeper relationship with Christ and each other.
- 6) **Exhorting** (Romans 12:8) The Spirit-given ability to strengthen the weak, to reassure the wavering, and to encourage the troubled.
- 7) **Evangelists**. (Ephesians 4:11) The Spirit-given ability to clearly communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to others.

SERVING GIFTS: The serving gifts are less noticeable than the speaking gifts, but these gifts are every bit as important to the Body.

- 8) **Faith** (1 Cor 12:9) Not to be confused with saving faith, this is the Spirit-given ability to trust God in any and all circumstances.
- 9) **Discernment** (1 Cor 12:10) The Spirit-given ability to distinguish, discern, judge or appraise a person, statement or situation, to distinguish between truth and error, and to discern good and evil.
- 10) **Helps** (Ministry) (1 Cor 12:28; Romans 12:7) The Spirit-given ability to serve the church body by “lending a hand” wherever it is needed, and to free up others to use their gifts to the fullest.

- 11) **Administrating** (Leading) (Romans 12:8; 1 Corinthians 12:28). The Spirit-given ability to plan, organize, guide and direct a group of people toward a goal or destination.
- 12) **Giving** (Romans 12:8) The Spirit-given ability to be excellent stewards of money and to use money to joyfully and generously meet the various needs of the church, its ministries, missionaries, or people.
- 13) **Mercy** (Romans 12:8) The Spirit-given ability to do what needs to be done to be patient and compassionate with those who are suffering or afflicted (physically and spiritually).

WE TEACH These gifts are non-revelatory, non-miraculous equipping gifts FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS (Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7, Ephesians 4:11-13).

WE TEACH that since each gift is given ACCORDING TO GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL and discretion, the possession of any gift IS OF GRACE and DOES NOT CONSTITUTE SPIRITUAL MATURITY (1 Corinthians 12:11; Romans 12:3, 16; Ephesians 4:7-16).

WE TEACH The proper use of the gifts is for the EDIFICATION of THE CHURCH BODY into CHRIST-LIKE MATURITY and to PROMOTE UNITED WORSHIP OF GOD in the congregation, giving preeminence and GLORY TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (John 16:14; Romans 12:4-5; Ephesians 4:15-16; 1 Pet. 4:10-11).