

The Five T's of Stewardship

Talents **1 Peter 4:10**

Review – Using what God has given us

Temple – body as home of Holy Spirit

Time – Given by grace to be used for God

I. The Distribution of Talents - ***Each of you***

A. No exceptions - every person

B. No unimportant people in God's Plan **I Corinthians 12:7**

C. Distributed according to His will not our wish - **I Corinthians 12:11**

II. The Diversity of Talents

- ***Use whatever gift you have, -various forms***

I Corinthians 12:4-6

A. Names – we are including all

Skills, Talents, Abilities, Spiritual Gifts

Listed – **Romans 12:6-8, I Corinthians 12: 27-30**

-- **Ephesians 4: 11-12, I Peter 4:10-11**

Not listed but implied-Hospitality, prayer, special skills

B. Difference between natural talents and spiritual gifts

Natural – from birth, that which is easy to master

Spiritual – from new birth, that which builds the Kingdom

How do I know what Spiritual Gifts God has given me?

Joy they produce in using, **Ease** they are to use

Fruit they produce – results for the Kingdom

III. The Drive of Talents - ***to serve others***

Serve - Diakoneo - same verb as serving tables, preparing food

A. The Purpose of talents and gifts

1. For the common good **I Corinthians 12:7**

2. To build up others **I Corinthians 14:12**

3. To equip others for service **Ephesians 4:12**

4. To allow us to do our part in the body **Ephesians 4:16**

B. The Standard of service

1. Love - **I Corinthians 13:1-3**

2. Glorify God - not me.

IV. The Duty of Talents - ***as faithful stewards***

Steward - one responsible for the management of that which belongs to another - lands, finances, servants, property

A. According to what we received **Matthew 25:15**

Rewarded according to faithfulness not results

B. Interdependent upon others (Body of Christ)

I Corinthians 12:14-21

Eliminates pride - I am better, **Demands cooperation** - I need you

There is no life without diversity

And no life in one part separately

C. Only one standard - faithfulness

V. The Dynamic of Talents - ***God's grace***

Grace - The favor of God according to His love and mercy

All that we do is by the general grace of God - life and breath

All we do in the Body of Christ is by the specific grace of God -talents

A. His grace is powerful and complete

Seen in Salvation **Ephesians 2:8-9**

Accomplished through His Word - in power

B. His grace give us the ability to use the talents we have

2 Timothy 1:6-7 a spirit of power, love and self-discipline

What is our part?

1. Commitment to Christ as Lord of every part of your life

No exceptions - No reservations

2. Commitment to the Body of Christ - the Church

When each does his/her part - it is healthy and grows

Don't ask what I can get but rather what can I give.

How to discover and use the talents God has given

1. Thankfully acknowledge talents you know and use them

Check your spirit

When other use their talents

Do I rejoice or am I jealous

When others fail to use talents or misuse them

Am I offended or do I reach out in sympathy and care

2. Try a variety of ministries to discover new one

Ease, Joy and Fruit

3. Diligently develop any gift He has given.

Learn and develop

4. Seek God first but with openness to His leading



The Macedonian Call

May 14-24 -- Just two more weeks to sign up.