

**Faith Christian Fellowship**  
**Sunday, October 20, 2013**  
**Faithful Stewards 4a**

**TEXT:** 1Co 4:1-7

We are God's kids and enjoy many privileges based entirely on that fact. We will, however, one day be evaluated based on how faithful we have been as stewards of what He has given each of us. It is required! Our fruitfulness and our reward depend primarily on our stewardship. (Drop and roll, or well done 3:12-15)

We are stewards of time, our bodies, money, gifts, and His message. We looked at time and our body, the Message, and our money. Finally, we will be evaluated on the day of Christ concerning how we used the abilities He gave us.

Believe you are gifted:: 1 Peter 4:10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. (NKJ)

Get motivated to find and use your gifts: It impacts the whole Church: Eph 4:16, and you will be evaluated on whether you are good (motive) and faithful (dependable):: 2 Cor 5:10-11/ Gal 6:4-5 / Matt 25:21.

Finding your gifts begins with a few basics: Romans 12:1-8 describes the flow of charisma gifts, divinely imparted abilities.

❖ Two key requirements

- V. 1 Present your body: show up!!!!
  - Present yourself consecrated to the work of God.
  - It is the only reasonable thing to do.
- V. 2 Change your thinking
  - Your thinking must be changed to reflect the thinking of God
  - You will either be transformed or conformed: no other choices!
  - Required to demonstrate the full will of God in your life.

❖ Get a Body perspective:

- V. 3 Learn to view yourself in the light of **reality**
  - You are not the only gift in the Body. Listen to the 5-fold gifts who are over you
  - You live by the faith you have. Be **prepared to be a servant** and live out of the limelight.
- V. 4 Variety is good.

- There are many different **functions** in the Body.
- 1 Corinthians 12: No part is any more or less important than another.
- **Your gifts equip you for your function.**

❖ Vv. 6-8 Use what you have to bless the Body!!!!

- Our gifts (charisma) differ entirely based on the grace of God.
- **We cannot gift ourselves. We are only stewards of what we are given.**
- Every gift is just a magnified ability in an area that all believers are expected to function.
  - **Prophecy** - This charisma gift describes a believer who is consistently used in the simple gift of prophecy, inspired utterance in a known tongue. He will find himself regularly being used to edify, exhort and comfort the Body.
  - **Ministry** - This is the gift of service. Some people will be gifted especially in the area of providing practical assistance. The implication of the language here is that some will be gifted in specific areas of service.
  - **Teaching** - Gifted to instruct others. May be exercised on many levels and in many positions. The teaching gift leads people to be students of the Word and careful explainers.
  - **Exhortation** - This gift is given for encouragement. Useful for emphasizing points in services and provoking the brethren to act upon the Word, motivating people to action and perseverance.
  - **Giving** - God has set people in the church with a special gift to give, both financially and of their lives.
  - **Leading** - Literally means "to stand before." Gifted to motivate, organize, and direct projects and activities.
  - **Showing mercy** - Gets real joy out of ministering to the physical or emotional needs of those whose lives are broken in some way.
- Your gifting is established by God, not you. It is not a question of deciding what you want, but discovering what you are.  
John 3:27 / 1 Cor 15:10