

Discipleship 103

Stewardship & Financial Freedom

Lesson Six: Stewardship of Our Talents and Gifts

God gave us talents and spiritual gifts not just for our personal benefit. God gave them to us to do His kingdom work here on earth. Each of us should use our unique talents to perform His will purposed for our lives and for the Body of Christ. The Bible refers to the church as the Body of Christ with Christ as its head. In this lesson, you will focus on identifying your talents and spiritual gifts for the purpose of doing God's kingdom work within and outside the walls of the church (Bright, pp. 47-48).

Natural Gifts

- 1. What talents and natural abilities do you have?**

- 2. How did you acquire them or improve on them?**

- 3. According to 1 Corinthians 4:6-7 and Exodus 4:11, what should your attitude be about them?**

- 4. How would you apply Colossians 3:17 to the stewardship of your natural gifts?**

Spiritual Gifts

- 1. Major passages on spiritual gifts in the Bible are:**

- 2. What are some reasons God has given gifted people to the church (Ephesians 4:11-16)?**

- 3. Why will two people not exercise the same gift in the same manner (1 Corinthians 12:4-6)?**

- 4. Though some spiritual gifts seem to be of greater value than others (1 Cor. 12:28-31), what ideas does Paul stress to keep Christians from personal pride because of those they may possess (Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:12-26; 1 Cor. 13; Eph. 4:11-16)?**

- 5. List several principles that describe what your attitude and responsibilities should be toward your spiritual gifts (Rom. 12:3-8).**

Life Application

Follow these steps to more fully understand your role in the Body of Christ, in terms of using your gifts and abilities:

1. Realize that you have at least one spiritual gift, probably more (1 Cor. 12:11).

2. Pray that God will make your gifts known to you.

3. Determine which of your activities the Lord seems to bless and inquire of other mature Christians who know you well what your spiritual gifts might be.

4. List here what you believe your spiritual gifts are.

5. Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you identify your spiritual gifts; then seek to develop your gifts in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Realize that you may have other gifts of which you are not presently aware, so exercise various gifts. Be aware that you are accountable to God for stewardship of your spiritual gifts and talents.