

Existing Spiritual Gifts

Pastor Teacher

- I. The gift of pastor teacher was given at Pentecost (Acts 2; Eph. 4:7-11).
 1. All Three Persons of the Godhead are involved.
 - 1) It is the Father's plan (1 Cor. 12:24)
 - 2) The Son gives the gift (Eph. 4:7-11).
 - 3) The Holy Spirit distributes the gift (1 Cor. 12:11).
 2. The Son's distribution of gifts fulfilled prophecy (Ps. 68:18).
 3. The grammatical structure of Ephesians 4:11).
 - 1) The gifts listed are separated by a pair of conjunctions (μέν and δέ). Which should be translated "*on one hand . . . and on the other hand.*"
 - 2) The forth gift, pastor even teacher, is set off as a single unit by the μέν and δέ and then joined by a conjunctive και which means both terms (pastor and teacher) describe the same person. This is Granville Sharps rule #1).
 4. The meaning of "pastor" and associated terms.
 - 1) Pastor means *shepherd*.
 - 2) The shepherd *feeds* the *flock*.
 5. Biblical use of the terms.
 - 1) The shepherd feeds and protects the flock (Mt. 9:36).
 - 2) The sheep by instinct herd up, or flock together (Lu. 2:8).
 - 3) Sheep naturally follow the good shepherd (Jn. 10:4).
 6. Metaphoric use of the terms.
 - 1) The Jews during Jesus' earthly ministry were a flock (Lu. 12:32; Jn. 10:1-2, 7-11).
 - 2) The church as another flock (Jn. 10:16).
 - 3) Christ as the Great Shepherd of the church (Heb. 13:20),
 - 4) Christ as the Chief Shepherd of the church (1 Pet. 5:4).
 7. Three potential roles for one man.
 - 1) Pastor-teacher gift is used to teach doctrine regarding the Christian life—grace.
 - 2) Elder is a description of his spiritual maturity.

- 3) Bishop, or overseer, is an elected office of the local church.
8. The four spiritual gifts of Ephesians 4:11; Paul and the Holy Spirit intertwine three extended metaphors— 1. Shepherd with a flock, 2. Building with wall made of stones, 3. Body with members.
 - 1) New Testament apostles and New Testament prophets laid the theological foundation of the church (Eph. 2:20).
 - i. This foundation was new truth, not in the Old Testament (Eph. 3:1-12).
 - ii. Individual believers are pictured as stones in the wall of the building (Eph. 2:21-22; 1 Pet. 2:5-6).
 - 2) Evangelists use their gift to increase the number of “stones.”
 - 3) Pastor—teachers use their gift to teach the “stones” the Divine plan for the Body and how to function in subordination to the Head (Eph. 4:12-16).
 - i. “For” is a preposition with the idea of facing— this gift is primarily a face-to-face gift (v.12).
 - ii. “Perfecting” has the meaning of thoroughly adjusting; it is a medical term with the sense of putting something in its proper condition (v. 12).
 - iii. “A work of a service” points to each individual’s role in the Body (v. 12).
 - iv. “For edifying the Body belonging to Christ” (v. 12).
 - v. This building process will continue until the Rapture (v. 13).
 - vi. Most of New Testament is correction (v. 14).
 - vii. This spiritual growth only takes place when a member is acting in subordination to the Head (v.15).
 - viii. The Body’s maturation is directed by the Head and members of the Body are instruments in the Body’s development by using love (vv. 15-16).
9. The pastor-teacher’s role.
 - 1) He is to continue to feed himself and to grow spiritually (Acts 20:32).

- 2) He is to teach New Testament truth for the Christian life (Eph. 4:12-16).
- 3) He is to teach Grace Principles (Acts 20:32 *et al.*).
- 4) He is to distinguish between the Old and New Testaments (1 Tim. 5:17 *et al.*).
- 5) The shepherd guards/protects the sheep from heresy (misapplication) and the perversion (denial or adding) of Scripture in the church (Acts 20:28).
 - i. Takes heed to the spiritual health of all the flock—understands functionally the equality in the Body.
 - ii. Watches/stays alert to spiritual danger: (Acts 20:31).
 - Is alert for external wolves.
 - Is alert for internal perverting of spiritual truth.
 - *This is my opinion:* as a result of guarding the flock he restricts membership.
- 6) He warns against measuring spiritual success by physical numbers or monetary gain (1 Tim. 6:3-10).
- 7) He warns against false teachers (2 Pet. 2:1-3).
- 8) He set an example with a victorious Christian life.
 - i. He still has a sin nature; however, he generally controls it (1 Jn. 1:8).
 - ii. He sets an example for living in the present in view of the future—in Christ truth (1 Pet. 5:3).
 - iii. He is assessed by his works (1 Thes. 5:12-13).
 - iv. His lifestyle should be (Heb. 13:7):
 - Evaluated as to living by faith.
 - If his faith is successful, his faith should be mimicked.
 - Note: faith and spiritual lifestyle are followed, not personality or other natural traits.
- 9) The pastor should not be overly emotional since he is to watch attentively on behalf of the souls/emotions of the flock (Heb. 13:17).
- 10) Nevertheless, the pastor should manifest joy, which is a part of the fruit from the Spirit (Heb. 13:17).
 Note: “Joy” is not an emotional high. Joy is the mental willingness to accept and appreciate any circumstance without resentment or

frustration during the circumstance (Rom. 12:12; Phil. 1:18; 4:4; Col. 1:24; 1 Pet. 4:13).

11) The pastor proclaims the Word whether people like it or not; he “cuts the Word straight” (2 Tim. 4:1-4; 2:15).

12) The pastor is held to a higher standard than other Christians (Jam. 3:1; Heb. 13:17).

13) The pastor should not be an autocrat (1 Pet. 5:3).

Summary of the Pastor-teacher gift:

- He feeds the flock spiritual food—the Christian life.
- He guards the flock from heresy and perversion of the Word.
- He gauges his success by Scripture not by numbers or money.
- He uses the Word of God as his counsel and he communicates the Word to individuals (the flock) in order that they deal with their problems using their individual priesthood. He is not a counselor, therapist, psychologist, entertainer, or motivational speaker. He uses the Word and It in conjunction with the Holy Spirit performs those functions (2 Tim. 3:16; 1 Jn. 2:20, 27).
- He oversees all spiritual aspects of the local church (bishop).
- His life’s mission can be summarized by ***“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children order their lifestyle in the truth.”***

II. The gift of teacher—one verse, not much revelation (Rom. 12:7).

1. Teaches the Word.
2. Not necessarily driven by seeing Christians practicing the doctrine taught. This is arrived at deductively, since it is different from pastor-teacher the gift would not function in exactly the same manner, although there is some overlap. He would not place the same emphasis upon teaching and applying the Christian life; however, this does not mean he ignores it.
3. *This is my opinion:* He may (but should not) teach with a “highly academic” style—may not apply truth to the Christian life.
4. Optimally he would receive tutelage in the Scriptures from the pastor-teacher.
5. All Christians have a role in teaching.
 - 1) Nonverbally by lifestyle (1 Pet. 3:15).
 - 2) Those without a teaching gift potentially may teach the fundamentals of the Faith (Heb. 5:12-6:2).
 - i. Repentance from dead works—the plan of salvation (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

- ii. Faith towards God—two levels of life: physical and spiritual—faith to live by; *i.e.*, victory over the sin nature.
- iii. New Testament doctrine of baptisms—water and spiritual (Acts 10:44-47; 1 Cor. 12:12-13).
- iv. Laying on of hands, a historical cultural symbolic act of acceptance (Rom. 1:11; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6).
- v. Resurrections of dead ones—two types (Jn. 5:28-29); pre-wrath, pretribulation (1 Thes. 5:9).
- vi. Eternal judgment (Heb. 9:27).

III. The Gift of Evangelism (

IV.

V. The Gift of Exhortation (Rom. 12:8).

VI.

VII. 1 Th).