

The Seven Redemptive or Motivational Gifts - Lesson One

- I. Introduction
 - A. Law of First Mentions
 - 1. Not actual law in the Bible
 - 2. More of a principle
 - 3. Something students of the Bible have realized through the Scriptures
 - 4. The order in which things are mentioned are often important
 - B. Each Motivational Gift relates to other things that are in Sevens in Scripture
 - 1. The order of creation in Genesis
 - 2. The order of the listing or using of the furniture in the Tabernacle
 - 3. The Seven compound names of God
 - 4. Seven last sayings of Jesus from on the cross
 - 5. Letters to the seven churches in the Book of Revelation
 - C. We will relate each gift to each of these things
 - 1. Then look at the tendencies and strengths of each gift
 - 2. And look at the weaknesses of each one
- II. The Seven Redemptive or Motivational Gifts - Lesson One - We will look at the first three: Prophet, Servant, Teacher
 - A. Romans 12:6-8
 - B. First mentioned is Prophet - let's relate them to other "sevens" in Scripture
 - 1. In the creation order God said, "Let their be light."
 - a. Genesis 1:1-3
 - b. The world was dark, void, emptiness and lack of order
 - c. Day one of God's creation story ultimately parallels the prophetic role of Jesus
 - d. John 1:1-5
 - e. The person motivated by the gift of prophet can recognize the light of truth that is in the heart and plan of God and bring it out.
 - f. The spirit of a man can discern things the soul or mind can not see
 - 2. Furniture in the Tabernacle
 - a. First item of furniture was the brazen altar where sin was dealt with
 - b. Exodus 27:1-8; 38:1-7
 - c. People could go no further toward the presence of God until they dealt with their sin
 - (1) by acknowledging it
 - (2) making the sacrifice
 - d. The prophet is not comfortable with a change in behavior with acknowledgment of sin
 - e. Prophet should bring confession and not condemnation
 - 3. The Seven compound names of God
 - a. First of the seven names of God is Jehovah-Jireh - "The Lord Will Provide"
 - b. Genesis 22:13-18
 - c. Abraham and Isaac on Mount Moriah
 - (1) God provided the ram
 - (2) instead of Isaac

- (3) like Abraham, God asks us to be willing to sacrifice whatever he asks
 - (4) ultimately, only the holiness and righteousness of God can satisfy a holy God.
 - d. Is easier for a person motivated as a prophet to see and understand the huge canyon between the sinfulness of man and the holiness of God
- 4. Seven last sayings on the Cross
 - a. Each one of these parallels a challenge for that gift
 - b. The first thing Jesus said on the cross
 - c. “Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” NKJV
 - d. Luke 23:34
 - e. He understood his sacrifice was God’s plan
 - f. What the Romans did was illegal, cruel and wrong
 - (1) Jesus forgave them
 - (2) asked his Father to forgive
 - g. Bitterness is a default weakness of the prophet
 - (1) prophet must realize what happens is Father-filtered
 - (2) to the degree that the prophet holds onto bitterness, he blocks God from doing the good that he intends for the prophet and the Kingdom
- 5. The Seven letters to the churches in Revelation
 - a. First church is Ephesus
 - b. Rev 2:1-7
 - c. “I know your deeds, your hard work, your perseverance.”
 - d. Prophet wired to thrive on hard work
 - (1) to find gratification in it
 - (2) to persevere
 - (3) to stay with something until there is closure
- 6. First lets state that a person gifted with the motivational gift of prophet may or may not have or operate in the Manifestation Gift of the Holy Spirit of hold the office of Prophet in the Church as listed in First Corinthians 12 or Ephesians 4. These are two separate things.
- 7. Some attitudes, tendencies and motivations of the prophet motivated person
 - a. Tends to see things in black and white, right and wrong
 - b. Is committed to truth
 - c. If it is right and God said it, the prophet is committed to go regardless of whether anybody follows.
 - d. Takes initiative
 - e. Needs to have a goal
 - f. Tends to be a visionary
 - g. Fiercely independent and competitive
 - h. Has to make sense of everything, even unreasonable situations
 - i. Bases faith on God’s Word; “God said it. I believe it.”
 - j. Is quick to celebrate what God has done
- 8. Major weaknesses of a prophet
 - a. Judgmental: Critical towards others and even more critical of themselves.
 - b. Unforgiving: Not willing to overlook the failures and weaknesses of

- others.
 - c. Bitterness: can have an unforgiving spirit that is destructive.
 - d. Non-relational: tends to value principles and truth as more important than relationships.
9. Biblical example of the prophet motivated person
- a. Peter demonstrated zeal, passion, impulsiveness and verbal expressiveness
 - b. Ask Jesus to invite him to water-walk
 - c. Spokesman for the early church
 - d. Peter ask how many times he had to forgive someone
 - e. The prophet desires justice, which can lead to un-forgiveness
 - f. The prophet tends to correct people who are not their business to correct.
Peter rebuked Jesus for telling the disciples he was going to die in Mark 8:31-32
 - g. In Acts 2:23 Peter defined black and white, right and wrong, by telling the Jews they had crucified Jesus
- C. Second gift mentioned in Romans 12:6-8 is the Servant
1. On second day of creation the Servant is paralleled
- a. God separated waters above from the waters below
 - b. Waters and atmosphere are pictures of the servant
 - c. Air and water purify
 - d. Atmosphere invisible
 - e. Servant frequently invisible, or has a low profile
 - f. Servant does not usually like the spotlight
 - g. And rarely given it
 - h. The term servant, in our culture carries negative connotations
 - i. But that is not how God sees it
 - j. Before God could create life atmosphere had to be in place
 - k. Servant carries important task of sustaining life through giving spiritual oxygen
 - l. Cleanse things
 - m. Can walk through areas of defilement and iniquity without getting personally defiled
2. Second item of Furniture in the Tabernacle
- a. Exodus 29:4; 30:17-21; 38:8
 - b. Bronze laver
 - c. Water to wash priest
 - d. Water to wash sacrifice
 - e. When priest went from Brazen Altar into Holy Place
 - (1) he had to go past the Bronze Laver and wash himself before he went into the presence of God
 - (2) the servant is designed to pray for leaders that they will be cleansed and renewed and will enter into God's presence
 - (3) servant is entrusted to facilitate the transition from the trenches into the throne room
3. Compound Names of God
- a. The name of God that parallels the gift of servant
 - b. Jehovah-Rapha, "The Lord Who Heals"

- c. Exodus 15:26
 - d. This name spoken when entire nation of Israel had come out of Egypt
 - e. Refers to keeping the people whole
 - f. Preventing disease from coming on them
 - g. Psalm 105:37 says they came out whole and healed
 - h. Obedience and a desire to submit to God's authority comes naturally to the Servant
 - i. God rewards their obedience with wholeness
 - j. Mother Teresa, did not get all of those diseases that killed many of those she ministered to
4. Seven sayings from the Cross
- a. Jesus said to the thief, "Today you will be with me in paradise."
 - b. Luke 23:43
 - c. Appeared that Jesus was helpless on the cross
 - d. Knew he was still the Son of God
 - e. Like Jesus, servants must come into agreement with who God says they are. Not necessarily by an affirmation but by actions.
 - f. Regardless of circumstances or appearances
 - g. Or what people around them think they are
5. Seven churches in Revelation
- a. Parallels church of Smyrna
 - b. Revelation 2:8-11
 - c. "I know your works, your tribulation, and your poverty."
 - d. Works:
 - (1) many things a servant does are not honored by others
 - (2) but the Father sees them all
 - e. Tribulation:
 - (1) servant can be put in a tight place and continue to function
 - (2) others often place significant expectations, demands and pressure on servants
 - (3) can thrive in tribulation which gets others down
 - f. Poverty:
 - (1) can appear impoverished by their circumstances
 - (2) they are rich in spiritual authority
6. Jesus said he came to serve
7. Some attitudes, tendencies and motivations of the Servant
- a. Sees external needs of comfort and food; quick to meet them
 - b. Is a team player
 - c. Little desire to build their own Kingdom
 - d. Practical and committed to present moment and present needs
 - e. Difficulty saying "no" to competing demands
 - f. Usually over-committed in scheduling
 - g. Has few enemies
 - h. Sees best in others
 - i. Highly loyal to family
 - j. May not be particularly organized
 - k. Totally trustworthy and reliable

- l. Can make excuses to justify other's bad behavior
 - m. Tend to spoil children, meeting too many needs too often
 - n. Purity of motive. Is straight-forward and honest
 - o. Does not desire spotlight
 - p. Tend to be exploited by others
 - q. Desires to empower others to achieve their best
8. Major weaknesses
- a. Battle for self-worth
 - b. Does not easily see his real value
 - c. Worry/anxiety, can take other people's problems and worries about the problem
 - d. Enabling. Does a task instead of teaching others to do it
9. Biblical example
- a. Ester (Ester 2:15)
 - b. Scripture says that, "She requested nothing.....and Ester obtained favor in the sight of all who saw her."
 - c. Highly exalted as wife of King, but she requested nothing
 - d. Not demanding of subordinates
 - e. Mordecai had to remind her of her worth
 - (1) Ester 4:9-11
 - (2) "Yet who knows whether you have come to the Kingdom for such a time as this?"
- D. Third gift mentioned is the Teacher in Romans 12:6-8
1. On the third day of creation God separated the sea from the dry land
- a. Planted trees, herbs and seed bearing plants
 - b. Plants draw nutrients from the soil
 - c. Convert them into life, wood and food
 - d. The seed uses the inert life in the land and converts it into a usable form
 - e. This is the role fo the Teacher
 - (1) the seed the teacher works with is truth
 - (2) when that seed is planted
 - (3) it grows and life flows out of our lives that was not there before
 - f. God has placed a hunger for truth in the teacher that can never be completely satisfied
2. The third item of furniture in the Tabernacle
- a. The Table of Show Bread
 - b. Exodus 35:23-30; 37:10-16
 - c. The elements of this table reveal part of the design and calling of a teacher
 - d. On the table was
 - (1) frankincense, a fragrant spice
 - (2) twelve loaves of bread
 - (3) at the end of each week the priests ate the old bread and placed 12 fresh loaves before the Lord
 - (4) Jesus said he was the bread of life
 - (5) frankincense is a symbol of worship
 - (6) wise men brought frankincense to Jesus when they came
 - (7) number 12 symbolizes tribes of Israel

- (8) God's government manifested on earth
- e. Only the priest allowed to eat the holy break
 - (1) revealing the level of intimacy they shared with God
 - (2) the teacher is designed for intimacy with Jesus - the Bread of Life
- f. Worship is a response to discovery of truth about who God is
- g. The ultimate goal of truth is not knowledge just for knowledge
 - (1) but knowing more about who Jesus is
 - (2) there by knowing more about who I am
- 3. Third of the seven compound names of God
 - a. Jehovah-Nissi
 - b. "The Lord Our Banner"
 - c. Exodus 17:8-16
 - d. Vs. 15 says, "Moses built an altar and called it The Lord is my Banner."
 - e. In Israel's battle against the Amakelites God would be their banner, a flag held high and give them victory
 - f. Moses and Israel had put away the slave and victim mentality they had when they were at the Red Sea. They had learned from Red Sea experience God was their victory.
 - g. Exodus 17:14 God told Moses to write the events on a scroll for Joshua
 - h. The teacher extends principles from one problem to another, form one person to another
- 4. Seven last sayings on the cross
 - a. Each one parallels a challenge for that motivational gift
 - b. Third one was that he spoke to his mother and to John
 - c. "Behold your son, and Behold your mother."
 - d. The principle for the teacher is responsibility
 - e. The challenge for the teacher is imposing responsibility on others
 - f. that is often difficult for them
 - g. They expect others to "Just Do It"
- 5. Letters to Churches in Revelation
 - a. Rev 2:12-17
 - b. Pergamum
 - c. "You remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith."
 - d. The design of the teacher is to be deeply committed to truth
 - (1) to the truth of the Word
 - (2) to theology
 - (3) to accurate interpretation of the Word
 - e. In this, the teacher reflects the nature of Jesus
 - f. The teacher must be careful to be committed to the real truth
 - (1) Scribes and Pharisees thought they knew and taught truth
 - (2) teacher must be guided by Holy Spirit and prayer to stay from error
 - (3) we are not talking about truth which is only partly known but actual error
- 6. Jesus ultimate example for teacher. Taught in love. Teacher can not look down on belittle those who won't seek knowledge as diligently as they seek it.
- 7. Some attitudes, tendencies and motivations of the teacher
 - a. Needs to validate truth for himself. Is the core of who he is. Loves

- knowledge.
 - b. Does not receive new things immediately
 - c. Wants first-hand details. Values precision in sharing details. Sometimes overkill of details
 - d. Processes things and makes decisions slowly
 - e. Normally has deep commitment to family and tradition
 - f. Can be immobilized by fear or risk. It can keep them from obeying God
 - g. Tends not to take the initiative to confront what is wrong
 - h. Often looks for more validation
 - i. Tends toward selective responsibility. Can be extremely responsible and reliable in one area, but does not carry that same behavior over to other areas.
 - j. Not easily swayed from the truth
8. Major Weaknesses
- a. Passive. Unwilling to impose responsibility on others
 - b. Struggles with responsibility in selective areas
 - c. Can struggle with issues of timeliness
 - d. Procrastinates on practical things
 - e. Wants to live by sight, not faith
 - f. Wants to know the end of a process before he begins
 - g. Intimacy and prayer may be a major battle for the teacher
9. Biblical Example of the Teacher
- a. Luke
 - b. Had a compulsion to validate truth
 - c. Carefully explained his reason for writing
 - d. Luke 1:1-4
 - e. Established truth by first hand investigation
 - f. He recorded Jesus was 30 years old when he began his ministry - Luke 1:23
 - g. Luke wrote the fullest and most orderly narrative of the life of Jesus
 - h. Luke showed that Jesus valued all kinds of people
 - (1) women, the sick, the poor, tax collectors, sinners, outcasts like Samaritans
 - (2) Luke 4:18-19; 5:12-13; 8:1-3;10:30-37;13:10-17; 15:11-32; 16:22; 17:11; 23:27, 43.
 - i. Then Luke wrote the book of Acts