

FIVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

After our previous lesson on Spiritual Gifts and the Transition Period of the Church Age, five specific questions were asked that I felt were important enough to answer in this class.

1. **The first specific question was “Do you think there could be a gift of teacher as well as the gift of pastor-teacher?”**

Some think so and point to Rom.12:7 as the proof text: “**Or** (eite) **he who teaches** (ho didasko / p.a.ptc nsm), **in** (en+loc of sphere) **his teaching** (te didaskalia).”

- The first Greek word (ho didasko) identifies the spiritual gift of communication.
- The second Greek word (te didaskalia) identifies the supernatural function of doctrinal instruction.

Let me ask you some pertinent questions:

- Can you create a doctrinal lesson for spiritual growth needs on your own? Can you teach what you have not been taught? (supernatural ability to teach meat doctrines. (Eph.4:11-14)
- What are the primary purposes of milk and meat doctrines? (Heb.5:11-14)? ALL spiritual mature believers should be able to teach milk doctrines to those in need of them. However, they teach what has been taught them (2 Pet.3:17-18).

What is the Christian women’s role as teachers in the local church? (1 Tim.2:11-13; Titus 2:3-5)

- Women are to learn a specific way under a PT for spiritual training for their marriage.
- Women are not to teach with authority over Christian men in local church.
- Women are to teach divine good (kalodidaskalos).
- Women are to train younger Christian women in doctrines of DI#2 and 3.

2. **The second specific question was “What is the difference in the roles of pastor-teacher, elder, and bishop or overseer?”**

Pastor-teacher is poimen-didaskalos

- It emphasizes the spiritual gift (Eph.4:11; 1 Pet.5:1-4).

Elder is presbuteros.

- It emphasizes the position, maturity, and appointment (Acts 20:17; 1 Tim.5:17-20; Titus 1:5-9).

Bishop or overseer is episkopos.

- It emphasizes function of spiritual growth of congregation (Acts 20:28; 1 Tim.3:1-7).

3. **The third specific question was “Can there be a plurality of communicators in a local church?”**

The church at Antioch had a plurality of five communicators: (Acts 11:19-26; 13:1-3; 14:7, 21-23).

When we follow Paul missionary trips in the Book of Acts, we began to understand these 3 roles:

- Paul has preached the gospel resulting in disciples in need of milk doctrines (Acts 19:1; 20:1)

- Once the disciples were taught meat doctrines of CWL, spiritual gifts were expected to function
- Appointment of PT as elders (Acts 20:1, 17, 27-32).

4. The fourth specific question was “Do you think that we could have more than one spiritual gift?”

During the Apostolic Age, believers had multiple spiritual gifts. We learn this from studying Paul’s missionary trips in the Book of Acts.

Since the Apostolic period, we are not certain. The problem is that spiritual mature believers are told to do the same function of spiritual gifts on occasions (Heb.5:13-14), on occasion and not as a permanent ministry like a spiritual gift. You have your gift forever. You do not exchange them (John 14:16; 1 Cor.12:4-7, 11-27) (body analogy).

Today there are Nine spiritual gifts active within the church:

- Two communication gifts: PT and Evangelist.
- Seven serving gifts: Exhortation, ministry, mercy, giving, help, leadership, and administration.

5. The fifth specific question was “Is it possible for a CA believer to be without a spiritual gift?” NO!

YOU WERE PERFECTLY BORN AGAIN (1 Pet.1:23; 2:2; Heb.5:13-14). There are no missing body parts. (1 Cor.12:11-27). The distribution of your Spiritual Gift is one of the eight works of the Holy Spirit which took place the instant of your grace salvation (Rom.12:4-5; 1 Cor.12:11-14).

“As each one has received a **special** gift, employ it in **servng** one another, as good **stewards** of the manifold grace of God.” (1 Pet.4:10)