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# 7 Motivational Gifts

From Romans 12

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## INTRODUCTION: 7 Motivational Gifts from Romans 12

### Addressing Cessation of Spiritual Gifts:

There are a number of denominations and theologians promoting a doctrine of cessation of spiritual gifts. This believe that certain if not most or all of the spiritual gifts ceased with the twelve apostles after the close of canon of the New Testament. While the period of the twelve apostles and the previous prophets has certainly been closed along with the canon of Scriptures, there is some support that the three lists of spiritual gifts are still in operation today. In recent years a number of evangelicals have accepted the managerial gift roles of evangelists, pastors and teachers. A few evangelicals are rethinking the managerial gift roles of apostle and prophet. But, the context of Ephesians 4 clearly states that the purpose for these five roles is the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13). Experience clearly reveals that those purposes have not yet been reached. Therefore, those five managerial gifts are necessary until goals have been reached. To say that the spiritual gifts have ceased is actually to deny portions of the Scriptures and spiritual power pushing the walk of the follower of Jesus completely into the natural. Cessation of spiritual makes no spiritual sense.

### Three Separate Lists of Spiritual Gifts:

There are three main lists of spiritual gifts in the New Testament. There is a list of nine manifestation gifts specifically distributed by the Holy Spirit to members of the body of Christ for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:1-26). (These nine include word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, effecting of miracles, prophecy, distinguishing of spirits, kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues.) There is a list of five managerial gifts distributed by the Son of God to the church for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of service to the building up of the body of Christ until we all attain to the unity of faith and the knowledge of the Son of God to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:1-13). (These five include apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher.) There is a third list of seven motivational gifts distributed by the heavenly Father to all of humanity for the purpose of practicing brotherly love and overcoming evil with good (Romans 12:1-21). (These seven include prophet, servant, teacher, exhorter, giver, ruler, and merciful.)

### Distinguishing three Features of the term Prophet:

A careful student of the Bible will notice that all three spiritual gift lists contain some form of the word “prophet.” There is a spiritual manifestation gift of prophecy distributed by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:10). There is managerial gift of the office of prophet distributed by the Head of the Church (Ephesians 4:11). There is a motivational gift of prophecy distributed by the Father (Romans 12:6). How do these work together? These work together in a multi-dimensional matrix of spiritual gifts. A believer can have a basic motivational design characteristics of a “prophet”, can be standing in the kingdom managerial office of “pastor,” and be moving in the moment in the spiritual manifestation of a “word of wisdom.” The three forms of “prophet” do not necessarily have to align in the moment. An example in the New Testament would be Peter. Peter demonstrated the motivational design gift of “prophet,” stood in the managerial office of “apostle,” and occasional moved in the

spiritual manifestation of “miracles” and “healings.” This was an expression of a multi-dimensional matrix of spiritual gifts.

### Seven Motivational Gifts in Romans 12:

What evidence would support that these seven gifts are distributed by the heavenly Father? The immediate context (Romans 12) uses the general word “God” (θεός) four times and “Lord” (κύριος) one time. The immediate focus is more general than specific to the Holy Spirit or to the Son of God. The smaller context is supported by the larger context in which the general word “God” is used over one hundred fifty times. The Apostle Paul specifically mentions serving God (Romans 1:9-10). What evidence would support that these gifts are distributed to all of humanity? Though the Apostle Paul certainly addresses the church at the same time this letter was sent to Rome as an evangelistic tool Paul was under obligation to preach the gospel to all in Rome (Romans 1:14-17). In this letter Paul generally addresses all men (Romans 1:18-32). This letter is not only for the Gentiles but also the Jews (Romans 2:17-29). This letter is addressed to the entire world (Romans 3:23; Romans 5:12). What evidence would support that these seven gifts can be classified as “motivational and “redemptive”? The context of the letter essentially describes the transformation through the renewing of the mind (Romans 12:1-2). The basis of this transformation is being baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:1-4). Paul continues to describe the process of sanctification of doing away with the body of sin (Romans 5:5-14). He goes on to describe this conflict between the two natures (Romans 7:14-25). In Christ, both Jew and Gentile are transformed to prove the good, acceptable and perfect will of God (Romans 12:1-2). That will of God is overcoming evil with good (Romans 12:21). The context is about transforming motivations for redemptive outcomes.

### A Perfect Number for the Father:

Why are there seven gifts from the Father? Seven seems to be a perfect number for God. In the Bible there can be found around seven hundred sevens. There are seven days of creation. There are seven items in the tabernacle. The book of Revelation has over fifty sevens such as seven churches, seven seals, seven trumpets, seven bowls, seven stars, seven new things, etc. The Lamb who was slain had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all the earth (Revelation 5:6). Isaiah describes Messiah in terms of seven spirits (Isaiah 11:2-3). Should we be surprised that God built seven into humanity to reflect the image of God in man? Studying through these motivational gifts will uncover parallels with many of the other lists of seven in the Bible.

## 1. PROPHET:

### Description of the Prophet:

How can we describe the motivational prophet gift? The person with the prophet motivational gift will have a capacity to perceive the mind of God and see the design of God observing patterns and seeking to make sense out of everything. The prophet has a passion for righteousness and justice and an ability to see through rebellion and hypocrisy. The prophet is a visionary who sees the end goal desired by God. But, the prophet does not necessarily see the strategic steps necessary for reaching that end goal. The prophet needs the ruler to help develop strategy and for protecting the project. The prophet has a full range of emotions from judgment to mercy to depression to joy. Prophets can be very hard on themselves, denouncing themselves, and tending towards victim thinking. The prophet will need to work together with a mercy to balance out those emotions. Prophets usually have a strong conviction, a strong faith, and passion for excellence. Prophets will need the teachers to maintain relationships and to persevere when the natural tendency is to shift gears and depart from relationships. In the mature state the prophet is very powerful in teams for coming up with God's vision for the end goal having a great capacity to unlock the birthrights of others in the body of Christ.

### Mature Prophet:

A mature prophet will release the design and mind of God into the vision of a team activating potential for future success. A mature prophet will be able to confront sin boldly shedding light upon situations that would otherwise remain dark. A mature prophet will embrace the value of all God's principles launching others through pain into their God given areas of authority. A mature prophet will have learned how to endure hardship and persevere through unexplainable circumstances earning both natural and spiritual authority. A mature prophet will have learned how to trust the timing of God and the results of God. A mature prophet will have learned how to forgive and extend mercy towards himself and others. A mature prophet will have learned how to persevere to the vision maintaining positive relationships with others, within himself and with God. The mature prophet will be a trailblazer with a passion for excellence and restoration.

### Immature Prophet:

An immature prophet will remain focused on problems and deficiencies and will maintain a negative, critical, condemning, confrontational attitude nurturing past grievances without mercy, throwing the first stone, while being accurate about the sin and deficiency. An immature prophet will have problems with relationships assigning blame, complaining, quitting relationships, running ahead of the timing of God, fearing being sidelined, neglecting relational intimacy, remaining withdrawn, isolated, hopeless and wounded. An immature prophet will operate towards narrow principles and extreme responses. An immature prophet may be able to help others possess their birthright but not be able to possess his own birthright.

### First Day of Creation (Form and Light):

The first redemptive gift of prophet parallels the first day of creation. On the first day of creation God created the heavens and the earth which was formless and void and originally darkness as the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the deep (Genesis 1:1-2). Then God spoke spiritual light into existence seeing that it was good then

separating the light from the darkness and naming the evening and morning the first day launching the vision of the remaining days of creation (Genesis 1:3-5). How does this parallel the prophet redemptive gift? The prophet is the builder and designer who takes that which is formless and void and making something from nothing. The prophet hovers over a situation with the capacity to launch the vision of sevens into fulfillment. The prophet sees in the spiritual what is not obvious in the natural. The prophet is able to separate out what is good from bad. The prophet looks towards the end goal of enabling the seven to work together to bring glory to the Father of lights.

### **First Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Bronze Altar of Sacrifice):**

The first redemptive gift of prophet parallels the first item of furniture in the tabernacle. God instructed the Israelites to make a bronze altar of sacrifice, five cubits long, five cubits wide, and three cubits high. On the four corners were four horns to which the sacrificial animal would be tied. There were four bronze rings and two poles for carrying the altar of sacrifice (Exodus 27). The pattern of sacrifice for sin was started in the Garden of Eden when God killed an animal to clothe Adam and Eve with garments of skin (Genesis 3:21). That pattern of offering a sacrifice on an altar was repeated by Noah (Genesis 8:20), Abram (Genesis 12:7-8), Jacob (Genesis 35:1), Moses (Exodus 17:15), and enshrined in the pattern of tabernacle worship (Exodus 27). These manifestations of sacrifice foreshadowed the ultimate sacrifice for sin in Jesus Christ. How does this parallel the ministry of the redemptive gift of prophet? The motivational prophet is the person upon whom the Spirit of God rests (Numbers 11:29) to represent the words of God to the people through visions and dreams (Numbers 12:6) for the purpose of dealing with sin (Deuteronomy 18:15). Prophets were also called “seers” (1 Samuel 9:9). So, the motivational prophet will see into situations, effectively preach the words of God dealing with sin and promoting the righteous standard or banner of the perfect will of God allowing people to pass into the interior areas of tabernacle worship.

### **First Church in Revelation (Ephesus):**

The first redemptive gift of prophet parallels the first of seven churches in Revelation, namely Ephesus. Jesus wrote to the messenger of Ephesus from the perspective of the one who holds the seven stars in His right hand and whom walks among the seven golden lampstands (Revelation 1:1). In other words, the redemptive gift of prophet serves as the gatekeeper for all the other stars and for the seven golden lampstands whom represent the exhorters of each church. In other words, the prophet enables the exhorter leadership. If you want a powerful team join a mature prophet with a mature exhorter. The prophet will give depth of spiritual vision; the other will give you width of natural vision. But, the motivational prophet must be careful. Though the prophet is able to persevere through trials and protect the church from evil men and test the false apostles, prophets may have the tendency to leave their first love for Jesus. The motivational prophet must repent and return to love relationships with God and others. When the motivational prophet combines the first love with other traits you have a powerful leader.

### **Biblical Characters (Elijah and Peter):**

A classical Old Testament character with the motivational gift of prophet was Elijah. He was a man of action concerned with righteousness and justice confronting sin among the people and leadership directly standing against the prophets of Baal (1 Kings 18). Elijah was a person who sought to bring order out of chaos. However, he judged himself harshly and fell into depression running away from the evil Jezebel. However, eventually he passed on a double portion of prophetic birthright that enabled Elisha to fulfill his calling. Elijah was caught up in a chariot of fire in a whirlwind.

A classical New Testament character with the motivational gift of prophet was Peter. Peter tended to be very impulsive climbing out of the boat to walk on water. Peter tended toward the outcasts who resided as scattered foreigners. Peter had a tendency to encourage the distressed by various trials towards rejoicing with joy inexpressible during periods of tribulation. Peter described a salvation message linked back to the Old Testament prophets who made careful searches and inquiries into the timing of the coming Messiah. Peter exhorted readers towards action and holiness ridding themselves from malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander. Peter perceived the structure or building of the spiritual house for a holy priesthood. Peter connected with the message of John the Baptist regarding repentance, baptism and the priesthood of the believers.

### Birthright of the Prophet:

The birthright of the motivational prophet is to perceive and speak the design of God into the lives of others so that they can reach their birthright and destiny bringing order out of chaos. The motivational prophet needs to learn to balance a sense of righteousness and judgment with maintaining positive relationships.

## 2. SERVANT:

### Description of the Servant:

How can we describe the motivational servant? The person with the motivational servant gift is loyal, obedient, demonstrating practical loving action, seeing immediate needs, meeting practical realities, extending honor to others, concerned about the comfort of others, finding the best in others, affirming others, straightforward, honest, can be trusted, having pure motives, low maintenance, without strife, hard workers, remaining behind the scenes, without selfish ambition, sentimental, saving things, likely to be competitive in games and sports. The motivational servant has the unique capacity to get along with almost everyone and to accomplish the necessary tasks for a group to thrive. The motivational servant is able to create a positive cleansing atmosphere enabling leadership towards success. The major weaknesses of the motivational servant is a battle for self-worth, being underappreciated and even used by leadership, taking on too much responsibility without delegating to others and having a victim attitude. The motivational servant needs to learn to exercise his God given authority for cleansing the atmosphere, protecting others from premature death and praying others into the kingdom. Every ministry or organization needs the servant to set appropriate boundaries, to set up and cleanse the land and atmosphere, to defend against premature death, to serve as prayer warriors, and to get the job done. They need to learn to serve God rather than mankind.

### Mature Servant:

A mature servant will release a cleansing and spiritually healthy atmosphere speaking the truth in love establishing appropriate boundaries of personal responsibility and obedience that pleases God rather than mankind. A mature servant will pursue intimacy with God rather than just accomplishing required tasks. A mature servant will honor God first rather than pleasing mankind. A mature servant will serve his or her family in a healthy way providing opportunities for others to grow in personal responsibility. A mature servant will become free to admit mistakes.



### Immature Servant:

An immature servant will tend to be performance oriented using religious activity to please others or God. An immature servant will have a poor self-image embracing a victim spirit walking in counterfeit humility. An immature servant will tend towards over committing and doing too many things poorly making excuses. An immature servant will lean toward pleasing people and believing what others say about them allowing others to shame them by dishonorable and slanderous comments perpetuating dishonor. An immature servant may enable poor character and dysfunctional behavior in others instead of empowering them to change. An immature servant may deny their children's needs making excuses or may have unrealistic fairytale expectations rejecting reality. An immature servant will tend to define themselves by mistakes, shame and perfection. An immature servant will have to overcome thinking of themselves in self-defeating terms.

### Second Day of Creation (Atmosphere):

The second motivational redemptive gift of servant parallels the second day of creation. On the second day of creation God spoke into existence an atmosphere separating the waters above from those below. That expanse refers to a dome like structure. God named that expanse heaven. The evening and morning marked the second day. How does this second day of creation parallel the motivational servant? The redemptive servant has the unique capacity to establish boundaries that create an appropriate atmosphere required for sustaining life and cleansing the stage upon which redemptive activities will take place. The motivational servant must learn to exercise that authority pleasing God rather than hiding behind and pleasing mankind.

### Second Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Bronze Laver):

The second redemptive gift of servant parallels the second item of furniture in the tabernacle, namely the bronze laver. Moses was commanded to construct a basin of bronze for washing. Aaron and his sons were to wash their hands and feet from the basin of cleansing water before they entered the tent of meeting. If they did not wash their hands and feet after the sacrifice and before entering the tent of meeting, they would die. This was to be a perpetual practice for the priests after entering into the priesthood through full immersion baptism. How does this second item of tabernacle furniture parallel the motivational servant? The motivational servant stands in the transitional position before entering into the holy place. Worshippers in the priesthood of believers require regular cleansing before entering into service. "If anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work" (2 Timothy 2:21). "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1). The motivational servant is called to set up appropriate boundaries and to cleanse the atmosphere from defilement before priests enter into worship. The motivational servant has great authority to cleanse people and atmosphere through prayer and setting up the stage. The motivational servant needs to exercise that authority from God rather than please mankind.

### Second Church in Revelation (Smyrna):

The second redemptive gift of servant parallels the second of seven churches in Revelation, namely Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11). Jesus wrote to the messenger of Smyrna describing the first and last (πρῶτος and ἔσχατος) who was dead and has come to life. The motivational servant has a special connection to transitioning people and

atmospheres from the beginning to the end. The motivational servant has great potential authority to transition people and atmospheres from death unto life. Jesus continues writing that He knows their tribulation and poverty (but they are rich). The motivational servant may tend towards having a poverty and victim mentality when in reality they are very spiritually very rich and authoritative. Smyrna was blasphemed by the words of those who said they were Jews but who were really from the synagogue of Satan. The motivational servant will likely feel pressured and slandered from those who are in authority who deny and use servants to their advantage. But, in reality the motivational servant is rich in spiritual authority or control over the atmosphere in the assembly. They may suffer; they may be tested; they may be cast into prison; they may have tribulation for ten days. But, if they are faithful unto death then they will receive the crown of life. The motivational servant is connected to the crown of life. The motivational servant will receive authority unto life promoting activity. The motivational servant must learn to exercise their God granted positive atmosphere promoting and life extending authority on earth as it exists in heaven.

### **Biblical Characters (Esther, Martha, Mark):**

A classical Old Testament character with the motivational gift of servant is Queen Esther. God placed Esther in the unique position in history to create a positive atmosphere for community of God to save the nation of Israel from premature death (Esther). God sovereignly arranged the circumstances to replace Queen Vashti with the Hebrew Queen Esther and granted her great authority among governmental leadership. Esther found favor in position between God the people of God and pagan leadership. When Haman had devised an evil plot to prematurely destroy the Hebrews, Esther was called upon to step out in faith, to exercise God granted authority and to save the people of God from premature death. Esther had to learn how to exercise her authority and to set appropriate boundaries and to properly intercede in order to save the day. Esther set up the salvation atmosphere by organizing a banquet for the king. Esther's appropriately exercised authority in humility countered the pride of the evil Haman usurper. Vocabulary accompanying Esther include words such as honor, dignity, humility, favor, request, petition, and banquet. Because Esther stepped into her God granted authoritative role, the people of God were saved.

A classical New Testament character possessing the motivational gift of servant is Martha. Martha welcomed Jesus into her home and served the Lord Jesus ensuring that the atmosphere was perfect. Martha had to overcome her strength of service from distracting her from an intimate relationship with Jesus (Luke 10:38-42). Nevertheless, upon her brother's premature death Martha was the first of sisters to meet Jesus on the road. Martha was the first to acknowledge that Jesus had the power over death saying "If you had been here my brother would not have died" (John 11:20-27). Shortly thereafter Martha was the first to witness Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:39-46). Witnessing others being raised from spiritual death is the calling of the motivational servant.

The author of the gospel of Mark is a motivational servant. As demonstrated by his vocabulary using the word "immediately" and style of very short stories the gospel writer of Mark demonstrates the heart of a servant. Mark includes details specific to a true servant of God. Mark describes the authority of Jesus over unclean spirits (Mark 1:27-28). Mark describes the supernatural spectacular transfiguration of Jesus in terms of Jesus' garments becoming exceedingly white as no launderer on earth can whiten them (Mark 9:2-3). Mark reminds us of Jesus' words "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all" (Mark 9:35). "Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. For

even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many” (Mark 10:43). Mark was the only gospel author who named Bartimaeus the blind beggar upon whom Jesus, the Son of David, showed mercy restoring his sight. The servant is powerful!

### **Birthright of the Servant:**

The birthright of the motivational servant is to provide a safe environment establishing appropriate boundaries that liberate the atmosphere and people from premature spiritual and physical death. The motivational servant needs to learn how to exercise authority through prayer to please God first.

## **3. TEACHER:**

### **Description of the Teacher:**

How can one describe the motivational teacher? The motivational teacher is oriented towards validating truth and seeking out knowledge. The motivational teacher values accuracy, precision, reason, facts, maintaining order, tradition, loyalty, being slow to make decisions only after having analyzed all the options, leading with the head rather than the heart, maintaining a deep commitment to family and tradition demonstrating long term patience. The motivational teacher have a unique capacity to search out and apply truth for the purposes of restoration and reconciliation. The motivational teacher can be compared to the priests of the Old Testament and the doctors and nurses during modern times whom are trusted for healing and restoration.

### **Mature Teacher:**

The mature motivational teacher will develop a balanced relationship between the written (logos) and spoken (rhema) word of God. The mature motivational teacher develop capacity to bring out new revelation and structures in addition to what has already been established. The mature motivational teacher will be able to confront sin and walk in fullness of responsibility raising the standards of integrity while maintaining relational intimacy with God and others. The mature motivational teacher will release empowerment and equipping into the lives of those nearby.

### **Immature Teacher:**

The immature motivational teacher may only accept that which has been clearly documented. In other words, they will not be open to new revelation. The immature motivational teacher may tend to be soft towards sin enabling others to continue in sinful patterns. The immature motivational teacher may be immobilized by fear, procrastinating on the practical, selective in fulfilling responsibilities, and being poor at maintaining boundaries and planning for the future. The immature teacher may have unhealthy loyalties perverted by the enemy keeping them in toxic relationships. They will need the Jesus to bring them into full maturity.

### Third Day of Creation (Vegetation for Food):

The third redemptive gift of teacher parallels the third day of creation (Genesis 1:9-13). God spoke "Let the waters be gathered into one place and dry land appear." God named the dry land earth and waters seas. God spoke "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed and fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind." God saw that it was good. The evening and morning were the third day. How does the redemptive gift of teacher parallel the third day of creation? The motivational gift of teacher is concerned with the dry land and bringing forth vegetation and seed bearing fruit from what God planted. There is a parallel to the Word of God planting seeds in the heart and producing fruit in the life of those who eat from the bread of life. The motivational teacher has the capacity to draw nutrients out of God's Word for producing fruit necessary for life.

### Third Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Golden Table of Showbread):

The third redemptive gift of teacher parallels the third item of furniture in the tabernacle, namely the table of showbread. Scriptures contain so many references to the importance of bread. You will be sustained from bread by the sweat of your face (Genesis 3:19). Melchizedek, the king priest of the Most High brought out bread and wine (Genesis 14:18). Because of the Exodus God instituted a seven day memorial feast of unleavened bread (Exodus 12:15-13:10). Forty years in the desert God provided the Israelites with manna like bread from heaven (Exodus 16:31-36). God instructed Moses to build a table of showbread to be placed inside the holy place. The bread of presence was to be set upon the table at all times (Exodus 25:23-30). Likewise the redemptive motivational teacher is called to keep the bread of life, the word of God, the Presence, constantly before the people at all times to feed and nourish their souls with words of life. Keeping the bread of presence on the table at all times was a priestly function. While the prophets would provide the harsh transition into the next level by dealing with personal sin, the teachers would provide the safe transition into the next level by nourishing the priests with the word of God. Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God (Luke 14:15).

### Third Church in Revelation (Pergamum):

The third redemptive gift of teacher parallels the third of seven churches in Revelation, namely Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17). Jesus wrote to the messenger of Pergamum from the One who has the sharp two-edged sword (Revelation 2:12). The sword of the Spirit is the word of God (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12). Pergamum was famous for civilization and learning. Pergamum was home to the pagan cult of Zeus who had a throne named the seat of Satan. In the nineteenth century German engineers dismantled the altar and took it to Berlin for the pride of Hitler. Antipas (Revelation 2:13) was a bishop who ruled over Pergamum and became a famous Christian martyr. Jesus had a few problems with the church at Pergamum. Some teachers held to the teachings of Balaam regarding the stumbling blocks of idolatry and immorality. Others held the compromising teachings of the Nicolaitans. Those compromising teachers need to repent and listen to what the Spirit says receiving hidden manna to receive a white stone with a new name written on it. In other words the teachers need to avoid idolatry and allow rhema words to transform their influence in society.

### Biblical Characters (Isaiah, Luke):

A classical Old Testament personage with the motivational gift of teacher is Isaiah. Though Isaiah stood in the office of a prophet, it can be clearly observed from writings that his was a motivational gift of teacher. Isaiah

wrote a very length, detailed, accurate, orderly, poetic and prophetic account of the coming Messiah, the Suffering Servant. Isaiah was received his calling through a priestly vision of the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple (Isaiah 6:1). Being a teacher Isaiah appealed to prophetic reason saying “come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord, though your sins are as scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool” (Isaiah 1:18). Having the teacher poetic singer nature Isaiah is noted for writing beautiful poetic songs of the beloved vineyard, namely Israel (Isaiah 5:1-7) and the suffering servant songs (Isaiah 41, 42, 44, 49, 53, etc.) Like a doctor Isaiah received prophetic revelation into the virgin birth of Messiah, namely Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14). Isaiah operated from a mature redemptive gift not only being safe but also addressing the need for a kingdom of justice and righteousness in the zeal of the Lord (Isaiah 9:6-7). Isaiah was the motivational teacher prophet who recorded the seven-fold nature of the spirit of God saying “The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord” (Isaiah 11:1-2). Isaiah described the teacher’s mantra “So the word of the Lord to them will be, order on order, order on order, line on line, line on line, a little here, a little there...” (Isaiah 28:13). Only time and space restrict me from adding evidence to support the fact that Isaiah wrote out of the teacher redemptive gift.

A New Testament example of the teacher redemptive gift is the gospel author of Luke. From the very beginning Luke writes from the teacher redemptive gift saying “inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught” (Luke 1:1-4). From these four verses we see that Luke was accurate, investigative, carefully, systematic, honoring and exact about the truth. To add evidence I could go through the remainder of Luke’s gospel describing his emphasis on the priestly stories, concentration on priestly worship, detailing of government, links back to Isaiah, etc. Only time and space in this short paper limit me from continuing out the multitude of details.

### **Birthright of the Teacher:**

The birthright of the motivational teacher is to access “hidden manna” from the Word of God and to share the “Bread of Life” to feed the world so that people can be reconciled back to God through the revelation of God’s truth. The motivational teacher needs to learn to go beyond what accepted revelation to get to the spiritual food that will satisfy spiritual needs of people.

## **4. EXHORTER:**

### **Description of the Exhorter:**

How can we describe the motivational exhorter? Motivational exhorters are extremely relational networking with a variety of social groups crossing every kind of social, racial, economic and religious barrier, being visionaries seeing the broad horizontal picture, governing by relationship rather than principle, master communicators, mobilizing large groups of people in a diversity of projects without being intimidated by new ideas or concepts. A mature motivational exhorter will provide energy, effectiveness and evangelism to any organization or team.

### **Mature Exhorter:**

A mature motivational exhorter will be able to mobilize, inspire, influence, encourage, govern both by relationship and principle, balance relationships and projects with principles and appropriate time management, persevere through troubles, conquer sin, embrace pain, serve rather than be served, and empower others to reach their full potential within the overall larger vision.

### **Immature Exhorter:**

An immature exhorter will tend towards mismanagement of time and resources, allowing a multitude of projects and tasks to distract from completing the vision, focusing on personal relationships and agendas rather than mobilizing people towards the purposes of God, remaining in the superficial rather than moving toward the intimate, governing by pleasing man rather than living by Biblical principles, failing to confront sin in the community, disconnecting from painful relationships rather than embracing pain for change, and delaying the possession of the exhorter birthright for many years.

### **Fourth Day of Creation (Sun, Moon, Stars):**

The fourth redemptive gift of exhorter parallels the fourth day of creation. Then God said ‘Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from night... for signs and seasons and for days and years; and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth... God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also. God placed them in the expanse of the heavens to give light... and to separate the light from darkness’ (Genesis 1:14-19). The motivational exhorter is the person with the light for the horizontal vision that governs seasons. Many times you can actually observe the light emanating from the faces of exhorters. They simply have a natural ability to connect with people and to warm their hearts. While the prophet provides spiritual structural light the exhorter provides the natural relational light into a community. While the prophet provides the long term narrow vision of the end goal the exhorter provides the short term horizontal vision for relational networking. While the prophet provides spiritual energy the exhorter provides the natural energy into the team. The prophet sees the light and the exhorter sheds the light. Based upon the account in Genesis my guess is that the exhorter has the capacity to share three types of natural light, the greater, the lesser and the stars. Research needs to be done to practically define the parallels.

### **Fourth Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Golden Lampstand):**

By now the reader can probably guess that the fourth piece of furniture in the tabernacle is the golden lampstand. God commanded Moses to make a golden lampstand with seven lamps (Exodus 25:31-40). The lampstand was made after a pattern that included cups in the shape of almond blossoms, bulbs and flowers. The purpose of the lampstand was to shed light inside the enclosed holy place in the tabernacle. While the prophet consumes light on the outside, the exhorter sheds light inside the holy place. The exhorter is called to branch out in seven directions. I personally believe that the exhorter should concentrate on seven projects reflecting the seven motivational gifts. This will help the exhorter remain properly balanced empowering others to fulfill their gifts in the overall vision.

There is probably a parallel for the cups shaped as almond blossoms, bulbs and flowers (Exodus 37:17-24). But, more research needs to be done to discover that particular application.

#### Fourth Church in Revelation (Thyatira):

The fourth church in Revelation that parallels the exhorter is named Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29). Jesus, writes to the church from the perspective of the Son of God who has eyes like a flame of fire and feet like burnished bronze (Revelation 2:18). Jesus addresses the exhorter who has love, faith, service, perseverance and increasing good deeds (Revelation 2:19). This church was very active and evangelistic in nature. But, Jesus confronted this church for tolerating Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, teaching and leading bond-servants astray to commit immorality and connect to idolatry (Revelation 2:20). The exhorter needs to learn to stand on principle instead of relationship alone. The church that is a kilometer wide and a centimeter deep is prone to immorality and idolatry. God who searches the minds and hearts calls on this type of church to repent and change their deeds. Nevertheless, some in this church have not known the deep things of Satan. The exhorter who overcomes and keeps God's deeds will be given authority over large groups of people to rule with a rod of iron. God will give that mature exhorter the morning star (Revelation 2:28) spiritual light. In other words, the exhorter has great potential to rule when they address immorality and idolatry going deeper with the things of God rather than Jezebel.

#### Biblical Characters (Gideon, Apostle Paul):

An Old Testament example of an exhorter is Gideon (Judges 6-8). Israel was being oppressed by the Midianites. So, they cried out to the Lord for help. An angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon naming him a valiant warrior commissioning him to deliver Israel. Gideon doubted seeking a confirming sign. An angel of the Lord told Gideon not to fear the people. Gideon reluctantly obeyed cutting down the altar of Baal and the Asherah pole. Then he asked for another sign of dew on fleece then another sign for dew on the ground. God finally convinced Gideon to take leadership in battle. Instead of relying on the strength of many people God had to teach Gideon to rely upon God to work through fewer people. It took a long time for this exhorter to settle into his birthright. He concerned himself with pleasing men and being distracted with acquiring signs and having too many people in his army. Nevertheless, despite the immaturity, God moved Gideon to become a victorious warrior.

A New Testament example of exhorter is the Apostle Paul. Paul wrote from the perspective of the big picture saying "... who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3). Paul was extremely and inclusively relational writing "... having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints..." (Ephesians 1:15). Paul encouraged spiritual enlightenment writing "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened..." (Ephesians 1:18). Paul was an active natural networker starting and overseeing new churches everywhere he went. Paul had a supernatural mature capacity to mobilize many towards a godly vision.

#### Birthright of the Exhorter:

The birthright of the exhorter is to influence and mobilize significant numbers of people towards the purposes of God. The exhorter needs to learn to release the desire for comfort, to confront sin in the community and manage themselves more effectively.

## 5. GIVER:

### Description of the Giver:

How can we describe the motivational giver? Motivational givers are one of the most diverse of gifts. They are good at many tasks. They have a generational resourcing worldview nurturing and preparing the way for future generations of family and others. While exhorters network from positions of leadership givers are natural networkers behind the scenes. If you think that givers would give to anyone and everyone you would be wrong. Givers tend to be very frugal and strategic in giving toward what they consider as worthwhile long term projects. They tend to give wisely rather than impulsively like the prophet and perhaps the mercy. Givers have a unique capacity to see right through manipulation and being con artists. Givers are those who find the bargains, good deals, and discounts before making purchases. Givers are necessary on a team for generational long-term impact, strategic resourcing and accounting. Givers have a unique capacity to birth, nurture and protect new things and ideas allowing them to grow at a faster pace. While the ruler protects projects and the servant protects people the giver protects new ideas.

### Mature Giver:

The mature giver will trust God rather than resources. They will see themselves as conduits of blessing rather than controllers of those to whom they give. They will have learned how to take on faith based risks while at the same time stand against destructive forces of indulgence and excess. They will have learned to properly deal with those who have false or hidden motives or agendas. They will learn how to nurture their family without being restrictive or controlling.

### Immature Giver:

The immature giver will probably seek to maintain control over resources and people. They hoard and have not learned how to take risks trusting God to provide. They allow fear of the unknown and lack of financial security as an excuse to control others. They can tend to do good without pursuing holiness. They can also tend towards favoritism. Their major weakness is ownership rather than stewardship.

### Fifth Day of Creation (Life and Generational Blessings):

The fifth motivational gift of giver parallels the fifth day of creation (Genesis 1:20-23). God spoke “let the waters teem with living creatures, and let the birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens” (Genesis 1:20). God created every living creature after their kind blessing them. God said “be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas and let birds multiply on the earth” (Genesis 1:22). To draw the parallel pattern, givers promote blessings, fruitfulness, multiplication and filling of assigned space. Every organization and team needs a giver to enable the fruitfulness, multiplication, blessing and fulfilling of the space.

### Fifth Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Golden Altar of Incense):

The fifth motivational gift of giver parallels the fifth item of tabernacle furniture, the altar of incense (Exodus 30:1-10). The altar of incense was made of acacia wood and overlaid with gold. The altar contained four horns, rings and poles. The altar was strategically positioned in front of the veil serving as a transition into the holy of



holies where the Ark of the Covenant stood with the mercy seat. Aaron and the priests would burn fragrant incense every morning and evening as a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout the generations (Exodus 30:7-8). It was illegal to offer strange incense on the altar. Aaron would make atonement on the altar's horns once per year with the blood of sin offering. The altar was most holy to the Lord. The giver serves as a transition to the throne of God. God loves a cheerful giver. God established the pattern of the tithe that opens up access to the throne. Paul urges brothers by the mercies of God to present their bodies as a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to God which is your spiritual service of worship (Romans 12:1). Peter pictured believers being "living stones, built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5). The giver will serve as that generational resourcing worshipful transition into the presence of God.

### **Fifth Church in Revelation (Sardis):**

The fifth motivational gift of giver parallels the fifth church of Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6). Jesus who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars speaks "I know your deeds that you have a name and are alive, but you are dead" (Revelation 3:1). The parallel is that the giver may have an outward reputation of being alive but inward reality of being dead. Givers can become complacent and lack spiritual vigilance. They will need to repent from compromising and awake so that God does not come like a thief to remove their resources (Revelation 3:3). Sardis was known for its clothing industry. A few had not soiled their garments. The one who overcomes will be clothed in white garments and will have his name kept in the book of life and will have his name confessed before the Father and His angels (Revelation 3:5). The giver needs to shed independence to put on dependence upon Christ for security and provision.

### **Biblical Characters (Abraham, Matthew):**

An Old Testament example of the giver is Abraham. The Lord said to Abram to leave his country and relatives to travel to a land that God would reveal. At age seventy five Abram risked security and by faith departed from Haran (Genesis 12:1-7). Abram built an altar of sacrifice in the Promised Land near Bethel (Genesis 12:8). But, Abram was neither completely free from relatives nor from fear. Abram partially compromised bringing along Lot and telling a half-truth to Pharaoh about his relationship with his wife, Sarah. Nevertheless, after war Abram was willing to give a tenth of spoils to Melchizedek, priest of God Most High. Because of Abram's faith and sacrificial giving, God blessed him. Yet, Abram was without an heir for inheritance. Abram had to learn how to trust God to provide not only the inheritance but also the heir. Finally, after God provided an heir through Isaac Abraham had to trust God to provide the sacrifice. God provided a ram in place of Isaac for the sacrifice (Genesis 22). Surely Abraham came to the point in his faith that God would provide the sacrifice to secure the generational blessing and inheritance.

A New Testament example of a giver is Matthew. We know that Matthew was a tax collector (Matthew 9:9-10). Matthew traced the genealogy of Jesus back to Abraham (Matthew 1:1-6). Matthew described the birth of Jesus in terms of gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh from the magi (Matthew 2:10-12). Matthew defined true "blessings" of beatitudes in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3-12). Matthew defined forgiveness in terms of presenting ones offerings (Matthew 5:23-24). Matthew recorded the most number of parables, words and commands of Jesus in terms of giving (Matthew 5:38-42; 6:1-4; 6:19-26, etc.) Matthew described the kingdom of heaven in terms of resourcing you for kingdom work (Matthew 6:33-34). The disciples were instructed not to acquire gold, silver or copper for their money belts (Matthew 10:7-11). Matthew recorded a parable of the kingdom in terms of slaves with

debt (Matthew 18:23-27). Matthew recorded Jesus' statement "if you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me" (Matthew 19:21). The evidence that Matthew held a motivational giver worldview continues.

### **Birthright of the Giver:**

The birthright of the motivational giver is to willingly attract and wisely distribute earthly resources and heavenly generational blessings through a personal sacrificial walk of faith in God to provide. The giver needs to learn to walk in faith in God to provide rather than to control resources and circumstances.

## **6. RULER:**

### **Description of the Ruler:**

The motivational ruler has the capacity to develop effective strategies to reach end goals. They can organize resources and people defending against all kinds of unruly attitudes. They thrive under pressure and have a zeal for making projects bigger. They attract and sometimes demand loyalty without needing affirmation. They have the capacity to bring spiritual freedom to a community and draw the best out of imperfect people. They have a capacity to be multitaskers and maximizers unto effectiveness.

### **A Mature Ruler:**

The mature ruler will demonstrate high integrity while sharing authority and leadership with others. The mature ruler will have learned how to avoid pushing people beyond their limits and how to nurture others. The mature ruler will trust God and take financial risks based on faith instead of waiting for the safe deal. The mature ruler will stop using religious activity to please God but rather walk in true heartfelt relationship. The mature ruler will accept responsibility for past mistakes and be willing to make amends and acknowledge unhealthy patterns.

### **An Immature Ruler:**

The immature ruler will lead or govern by control applying constant pressure to others at work, home or in ministry. The immature ruler will think he or she is always right and rejecting correction thinking their great accomplishments are enough to compensate. The immature ruler will exploit people or situations in selfish ways to maintain authority. The immature ruler will over administration being too concerned with meeting the goal and finishing the project rather than with the people involved in the project. The immature ruler doesn't nurture key relationships being too busy with multiple interests and activities endlessly pursuing more objectives. The immature ruler will find value in work and accomplishments rather than in God.

### **Sixth Day of Creation (Mankind in the Image of God):**

The sixth motivational gift of ruler parallels the sixth day of creation (Genesis 1:24-31). God spoke to the earth to bring forth living creatures after their kind such as cattle, beasts and creeping creatures. God saw this was good. Then God spoke the famous phrase "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness" (Genesis 1:26a). God purposed mankind to rule over the fish of the sea, birds of the sky and cattle and creeping things on the earth. The ministry of ruling over the earth was given to mankind. God created mankind in His own image, male and

female. God blessed mankind and commanded them to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue and rule over everything that moves on the earth. God resourced mankind with every seed yielding plant and fruit bearing tree. God resourced the animals with green plants. God saw everything that He had made, it was very good. The parallel is that mankind was created for dominion as a king and priest over a designated territory being fully resourced to carry out the agenda of the Creator. This dominion is supposed to be expanded and shared rather than condensed and confined.

### **Sixth Item of Furniture in the Tabernacle (Ark of the Covenant):**

The sixth motivational gift of ruler parallels the sixth item of furniture in the tabernacle, namely the Ark of the Covenant. God heard the groaning of the Hebrew people and remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Exodus 2:24). For, God had established His covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they sojourned (Exodus 6:4). Moses took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, all that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient (Exodus 24:7). God commanded Moses to build an Ark of the Covenant overlaid with gold together with rings and poles. God instructed them to place the book of the covenant into that ark (Exodus 25:10-16). The Ark of the Covenant pictures the place from which the Ruler exercises dominion through covenant. The Israelites agreed to the covenant and enjoyed a covenant marriage supper meal together with their God (Exodus 24:11). God created mankind to be joint heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17; Galatians 3:29, 4:7, 4:30, Ephesians 3:6; Hebrews 1:1-2; James 2:5). Believers are called to rule as kings and priests (1 Peter 2:9; Hebrews 10:19-25; Revelation 1:6, 5:10, 20:6).

### **Sixth Church in Revelation (Philadelphia):**

The sixth motivational gift of ruler has parallels the sixth church in Revelation. Jesus wrote to the messenger of the church in Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13). God who is holy and true also has the “key of David” who has authority to open and shut (Revelation 3:7). There is an open door for rulers who have kept God’s word and who have not denied His name. But, there are some of the ruler synagogue of Satan who say they are Jews but lie. Jesus will force them to submit to the authority of the authentic (Revelation 3:9). True rulers will have kept the word of Jesus’ perseverance. Therefore, God will keep true rulers from the hour of testing about to come upon the whole world. The rulers are called to hold fast to their gift so that no one will take their crown (Revelation 3:11). God will make those overcoming rulers to be a pillar in the temple of God. They will receive a special name of God a name of the city of New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven (Revelation 3:12). In other words, the ruler is designed to hold the position of dominion but in keeping God’s word and Jesus’ name.

### **Biblical Characters (Nehemiah, James):**

An Old Testament example of the motivational ruler is Nehemiah. He became burdened for a project to restore the broken down walls and gates of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1:1-3). Nehemiah was an amazing organizer of people, resources and obtaining official government permission (Nehemiah 2:7-9). Nehemiah was a unifier around a common cause (Nehemiah 2:16-17). Nehemiah demonstrated a capacity to strategize and delegate specific tasks to get the job done (Nehemiah 3:1-2). Nehemiah protected the project from internal opposition and external threats (Nehemiah 4:9-15). Nehemiah was a finisher of projects (Nehemiah 6:15-19). Nehemiah demonstrated a character of being matter of fact and even harsh towards those who had sinned (Nehemiah 13:23-26).

A New Testament character example of ruler is James. James stood in the balance of joy, endurance and promoting perfection (James 1:2-4). Like Nehemiah James communicated through direct and confrontational language (James 1:13-15). James was oriented towards action doing the will of God rather than merely hearing the word of God (James 1:22-24). James dealt with people who had bad attitudes and wrong motives (James 2:1-4). James chose illustrations related to maintaining control over the small things (James 3:4-5). James effectively dealt with quarrels and conflicts arising from wrong motives (James 4:1-3). James sought to unify a diverse group (James 5:13-15). These are actions characteristic of the internal motivational gift of ruler.

### **Birthright of the Ruler:**

The birthright of the ruler is to exercise dominion over systems for building the righteous kingdom of God on earth as in heaven. The ruler needs to learn how to exercise dominion in righteousness.

## **7. MERCY GIVER:**

### **Description of the Mercy Giver:**

The seventh motivational gift is the person who shows mercy. The one who shows mercy feels the heart of God. To use an idiom “they wear their hearts on their sleeve.” They sense the wounded and desire to meet emotional needs of others. They identify with people in distress desiring to show empathy and to provide comfort. Those oriented towards showing mercy tend to be very safe with few enemies. They are usually seeking intimacy. In a church setting they are often oriented towards worship. The person oriented towards showing mercy tend to be involved with alignment. They have the capacity to align people to God and to one another. However, like the exhorter then can compromise principles and truth for the sake of maintaining relationships. They may demonstrate periods of emotional drama.

### **Mature Mercy Giver:**

The mature giver of mercy will be able to balance relational sensitivity with basing decision making upon godly principles. The mature giver of mercy will draw balance from the other motivational gifts to respond appropriately to situations rather than simply react. The mature giver of mercy will find fulfillment not only in intimacy but also in promoting destiny embracing the mind and truth of God towards God’s redemptive plans and purposes. A mature giver of mercy will have gained wisdom for setting appropriate boundaries. A mature giver will have developed a wholesome self-identity.

### **Immature Mercy Giver:**

The immature giver of mercy will tend towards making decisions based on feelings rather than godly principles and values. The immature giver of mercy will embrace dangerous people who exploit them for selfish purposes. The immature giver may remain in unhealthy relationships, jobs, churches, etc. The immature giver of mercy may seek to get involved where they don’t belong misapplying emotional discernment. The immature giver of mercy may take harm upon themselves in order to protect others from negative consequences. The immature giver of mercy

may fail to take a stand on issues and on righteousness being wrapped up in the opinions of men and pleasing mankind.

### Seventh Day of Creation (Rest):

The seventh motivational mercy gift parallels the seventh day of creation (Genesis 2:1-3). After God completed creating the heavens and earth along with their hosts, on the seventh day God rested. God blessed and sanctified that seventh day (Genesis 2:1-3). God repeated in the covenant “For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy (Exodus 20:11). The pattern was established. “For six days work may be done, but on the seventh day there is a Sabbath of complete rest, holy to the Lord; whoever does any work on the Sabbath day shall surely be put to death” (Exodus 31:15, 35:2; Leviticus 16:31, 23:3; Deuteronomy 5:14). The Lord also established a Sabbath rest for the land (Leviticus 25:4, 26:34-35). So, in Christ there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God (Hebrews 4:9). How does this parallel the mercy giver? The giver of mercy is the person who enjoys resting in the presence of relationship with God. They are oriented towards rest and worship.

### Seventh Item of Tabernacle Furniture (Mercy Seat):

The seventh motivational gift of showing mercy has a parallel in the seventh item of furniture in the tabernacle, namely the mercy seat. You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold... two cherubim of gold... wings spread upward covering the mercy seat... You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark... In the ark you shall put the book of the covenant... There, above the mercy seat God will meet with you... God will rule and reign with you from between the two cherubim which are upon the ark of the testimony... From that meeting place God will speak all the commandments to the sons of Israel... (Ideas taken from Exodus 25:17-22). What is amazing about the mercy seat is that this location is the meeting point between heaven and earth and God and mankind. Mercy givers have a potential to help promote alignment and intimacy with God through offering up praise and worship to God. They offer up expressions of thanksgiving for God’s mercy and grace. Those who show mercy have captured the heart of God. David was a man who understood the heart of God, “But you, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness and truth” (Psalm 86:15). “Great are Your mercies, oh Lord” (Psalm 119:156). “The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and great in lovingkindness. The Lord is good to all, and His mercies are over all His works” (Psalm 145:8-9). For, “blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy” (Matthew 5:7). “Have mercy on us, Son of David” (Matthew 9:27).

### Seventh Church in Revelation (Laodicea):

The seventh motivation of mercy giver has parallels to the seventh church of Laodicea. Jesus addressed the church in Laodicea as “the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God” (Revelation 3:14). The problem with the church of Laodicea was that they were neither hot nor cold. Laodicea had become lukewarm. The mercy giver tends towards compromise of principles for the sake of experiences. Laodicea had become materialistic, wealthy and in need of nothing. The mercy giver tends towards an inappropriate relationship to wealth. They need to buy gold from God refined in fire (Revelation 3:18). Laodicea failed at spiritual insight not seeing that they were spiritually wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked (Revelation 3:17). They needed to anoint their eyes with salve so that they could spiritually see clearly (Revelation 3:18). The mercy giver sometimes cannot see the spiritual realm. Sometimes Jesus can be standing on the outside knocking on the door

desiring to come in and dine with the mercy giver. The mature mercy giver will have conquered these natural tendencies and will have become on fire for God. But, they have to press through the tendency towards being “lukewarm.” In these last days we will see more churches having great worship experiences while at the same time living lukewarm lives.

### **Biblical Characters (David, Apostle John):**

An Old Testament example of a mercy giver is David. God chose David because of his heart (1 Samuel 16:7). David had an understanding of the mercy and grace of God (Psalm 6). David placed his rest in God (Psalm 3:5). David had an intimate daily relationship with God (Psalm 5:3). David connected to God through worship (Psalm 8). David gave praise and thanksgiving to God (Psalm 9). David was concerned with abiding in the tent of God and dwelling on the holy mountain together with God (Psalm 15). We read about David fulfilling both the king and priest role at the same time. Most Christians understand that God chose David as king. Jesus came through kingly lineage of David. But, few understand that David also shadowed functions of a priest. David ate from the consecrated priestly bread (1 Samuel 21:4); David wore the priestly ephod (1 Samuel 30:7); and David danced before the Lord (2 Samuel 6:14); David offered burnt and peace offerings blessing the people in the name of the Lord of hosts (2 Samuel 6:17). David pitched a tent for the ark of the Lord and went in and sat before the Lord in prayer (2 Samuel 7:18). The point is that David was a mercy giver who was intimate with God performing both a king and priestly role. David was merciful to Mephibosheth relative of Saul who tried to murder David (2 Samuel 9). David was merciful to his son Absalom who ended up betraying him (2 Samuel 13:39). These are expressions and tendencies of mercy givers.

A New Testament example of a mercy giver is the Apostle John. John is characterized as being the disciple that Jesus loved who reclined on Jesus' chest (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7; 21:20). More than any other, the mercy giver disciple named John wrote about the love of Jesus. “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). John intimately understood grace and truth connecting that to the glory of God in Jesus saying “and the word became flesh and dwelt among us and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth... for of His fullness we have all received grace upon grace... no one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him” (John 1:14-18).

### **Birthright of the Mercy Giver:**

The birthright of the mercy giver is to align others to the heart of God and to demonstrate to others how to rest in the grace and mercy of God. The mercy giver needs to learn how to be practically productive and fruitful.

### **CONCLUSION:**

Someone once said that perhaps one of the greatest theological questions of all time is “so what?” What difference does this understanding make on Monday morning? How can knowing your motivational gift improve your life and glorify God? Knowing your particular redemptive motivational gift frees you to participate in God's will through your unique identity unlocking your specific kingdom assignment on earth. Knowing the particular redemptive gift of others with whom you have a relationship helps you to understand their point of view and to value their unique identity and kingdom assignment. Knowing motivational redemptive gifts provides a foundation upon which you are

able to solve conflicts. Knowing motivational redemptive gifts assists leadership with building effective teams resulting in a more powerful impact in society. Blending mature motivational redemptive gifts together empowers individuals and groups for successful ministry.