



# FOURSQUARE **MINISTRY TRAINING**

## **MODULE TWO**

### **Foursquare Ministry Training New Zealand**

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## **Module Two: Discovering your Mission**

### **Part Two Discovering Your Mission**

#### **A. Lessons**

- Lesson Seven: Your Spiritual Inventory
- Lesson Eight: Releasing Service Gifts
- Lesson Nine: Releasing Communication Gifts
- Lesson Ten: Releasing Pastoral Gifts
- Four Quizzes
- Paper: Expansion of one of the topics covered in the lessons; 400 words.
- Gift Assessment

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MODULE TWO: DISCOVERING YOUR MISSION</b> <b>UNIT ONE: DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL INVENTORY</b></p>
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The purpose of this Unit: To discover our position of authority, which we as ministering servants of Christ , when we employ the wealth of gifts and are responsible for them, because they are His equipment for us to fulfil our specific Body Role in His great Mission He has called us to. When we have finished, we will know what our primary gifts and abilities are, and then next we will discover how God desires us to use them.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1. Where God is coming from about your own personal Mission: Who He says you are.</b></p>
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i) **The Priesthood of all Believers:**

- a) God has prepared a personal mission, or assignment for every Believer. In order to fulfil this Mission, it is necessary to both believe and understand that God has granted them a “spiritual position” as one of Christ’s “priests” in the Kingdom of God. *1 Peter 2:5,9,10..”You also like living stones are built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus.. you are a chosen people, a Royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who brought you out of darkness into his glorious light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”*
- b) All Believers are God’s priests: We have been so used to having churches where there are ‘ministers’ and ‘the laity’, that we need to renew our minds to the Truth.. all of us are priests.. all of us are on the same level.. no-one has special privileges.. all are special in His sight.. everyone has the same right and authority to pray for someone else..there are no ranks in priesthood.. those licensed have no greater or lesser authority to minister to others than you. In the local Church we need to all work in together accountably as ‘the visible Body of Christ’. Any ‘extras’ a Believer may appear to arrogate to themselves is nothing more than filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6)
- c) The Bible makes no distinction between clergy and laity: You cannot find the word ‘clergy’ in the Bible.. the term ‘clergy’ comes from the term magistrate in the Greco-Roman world. The term ‘laity’ comes from the Greek “laikoi”, which is found in 1 Peter 2:5.. and it means “the whole people of God”.
- d) We are all equally priests: and yes, we do honour the roles of God appointed elders and deacons who prove to be responsible, and recognise their role with us before God.
- e) We all have equal direct access to God: No other priest can work out my salvation relationship with God on my behalf.. I carry the can!

**2. What is the Mission of the People of God?**

- i) As God sent Jesus, so he sends us! John 20:21; Mark 15:151-16, Matthew 28:19,20

- ii) We are all commissioned: Right now, God is purchasing and redeeming a lost and dying souls, and we are carriers of this Good News within us. There are four elements in this..Regeneration, Renewal, Empowerment and Commission.
- a) Regeneration: Titus 3:5-7..*“He saved us, not through righteous things that we have done, but because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth, and renewal by the holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, son that having been justified by His Grace, we might become heirs having the hope of Eternal Life.”* You haven’t been regenerated unless you have responded to The Gospel.. faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. When you have responded, you have just qualified to be a message-bearer. God calls all people, through people like us, and we have learnt to emanate the character, qualities, and message of Christ in the world. **Our motivation comes from being connected to the Presence of Christ within us.** Those connected are regenerated into Christ-likeness.
- b) Renewal: Ephesians 4:22-24 *You were taught with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is corrupted by deceitful desires, and be made new in the attitudes in your mind, so put on your new self, created to be like god in true righteousness and holiness.”* Renewing comes us we understand the elementary teachings as they are listed in Hebrews 5:11 to Hebrews 6:5. We are all given the ministry of reconciling people to Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17,18,20).
- c) Empowerment: Acts 1:8 *“You will receive Power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses to the ends of the Earth.”* Because a seemingly impossible assignment awaits you, God planned for Powers in the unseen realm, to work with you and go ahead of you, and be in you! So get empowered by the Baptism with the Holy Spirit first! Doing Christ’s work means that you are destroying the existing works of the powers of darkness, who will react in a hostile fashion to you.. see Ephesians 6:12. However we have Divine

unlimited help.. the Holy Spirit is upon each one of us, the same One who was upon Christ, who triumphed over Principalities and Powers, disarming them, and bringing His victories into the public arena of people's ordinary, everyday lives! Go with confidence and unlimited authority! (See Luke 10:19) **Be unleashed together to demonstrate the Presence of Jesus in Word and deed.**

- d) Commission: We must GO, and we must keep on GOING! We are a Christian Community who have a lifetime Mission until we are called Home to Glory. Bring Jesus' Love, Grace, Forgiveness, acceptance and restoration to everyone, everywhere, all the time. **As you conduct your evangelism do so with mercy, and meet the great needs of people in spirit, soul, or body as you go with love and generosity. "give to the poor and you give to God" (Proverbs)**

### **3. The vocation of the 'laity'.**

Acts 8:4.. "Those who had been scattered preached The Word wherever they went". The 'diaspora' or scattering that came as the Church was persecuted in Jerusalem about 70AD, gave the pattern for Christ's work.. **evangelism occurs outside the church walls!** Our Church is the "training station" for personal evangelism.. we come and worship and exalt Christ, and our natural momentum is back out into the world where people we serve and live in the real world. 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12 says.. "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders, and so that you will not be dependent on anybody". Genesis 1 and 2 make it quite clear that we are appointed as vice-regents over all creation with the power to control and regulate it, and to harness it's clear potential.. we reign with Christ! **Do our work for Him, or at our employment well.. the only Christian work is good work, well done.** Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." Christians whistle at work! Yes, we definitely are a new breed! Let's be radical, because

people need a better alternative for their life than the one they have now! Jesus says to “go the extra mile!”. Serve your fellow man in whatever way you can. Find an itch and scratch it, and you’ll build a bridge of love and trust the gospel can travel over to your neighbour. Also, stand up for purity and justice in a twisted and fallen world. Arise! This is the Final Hour! Yes, of course you’ll strike trouble.. John 16:33.. “in this world you will have trouble. Take heart. I have overcome the world!”

#### **4. What else God says you’ve got to fulfil your Mission.. You are a bearer of Holy Ghost’s Spiritual Gifts.**

As you have already discovered (in Unit 4) the purpose of your spiritual Gifts (*charismata*: Gk. “God’s Grace towards”) is to equip you to serve others in the love and enablement of the Holy Spirit. This is so we can operate in this needy world by co-operating with Holy Spirit, and be empowered by Him. The Gifts of the Spirit put hands, feet and a voice to the way we serve people for Christ. 1 Peter 4.10..“*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s Grace in it’s various forms.*”

- i) The Release of the Gifts: Human needs are everywhere. As needs surface the necessary spiritual gifts to meet that, or those needs are often released by the Christian. When we feel inadequate, God is able to make up the difference. Paul said..“When I am weak, then He is strong”. Gifts are released through limited man, by the unlimited Holy Spirit. Where we release our gifts is where we find the need. This happens both in Church and in the marketplace. We should seek to serve wherever the opportunity presents itself. By allowing the Holy Spirit to touch people through us, we will experience a multiple release of His Gifts.
- ii) The Timing of their release: Timing is always up to God. Opportunities present themselves, and these are ordained by God. Surprises await us each day. While many people in church have needs, but the people in the world are to experience the Love of God in this way too. This encourages people to experience the Love of God. Hebrews 2:4...“*God also testified to salvation by signs and wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to*

*his will.”*

- iii) The ‘Best Gifts’: The best gift is the one needed at a specific moment. God doesn’t rank them, nor should we. The Apostle must reduce himself to function as a servant to be authentic. Love doesn’t boast, neither is it self-seeking. If someone needs mercy, prophecy is of little use. If someone is hungry, faith to move a mountain won’t suffice. If someone needs healing, interpretation of tongues may not suffice. The Holy Spirit knows which gift suffices for each occasion. Be sensitive to what he wants you to move in at that moment. 1 Corinthians 14:1..”*Follow the way of Love and eagerly desire spiritual Gifts.”*
- iv) The fruit and the gifts: Christian character is measured by how much of the Fruit of the Spirit we exhibit in our lives. Gifts that are released with the fruit of the Spirit will produce lasting results. **The fruit of the Spirit is exhibited by knowing the holy Spirit intimately.** If we release Prophecy in an attitude of superiority, malice or dissension, we have become a “clanging symbol” and nothing more. **Release of the Gifts originates from a genuine concern for the feelings and welfare of others to whom we minister.**(Study the Fruit of the Spirit for your own life in Galatians 5:22-23.
- v) The Measure of Grace: God releases a variety of Gifts through each believer according to His measure of Grace. A “measure” is an amount. Grace is freely given. Also, remember that each Believer is part of their Local Church, the visible ‘Body of Christ’, and that the “measures” help us to understand that each one of us like a jig-saw piece fitted in with the rest of the Jig Saw which is the fullness of Christ means that we all have different roles, some large, some small, but each one is necessary and important. One may prophesy occasionally over a person. Another may have a measure that is to the whole church. Another to the region. Another to the nation. **However, do not limit the Holy Spirit to whatever He may desire you to do at any given time.** His measure of Grace may be greater for any required moment. Just co-operate freely with the Holy Spirit, and don’t let anything limit you at any time, be ready to be surprised at what He may suddenly give you the Grace for! Keep believing for

your gift to grow! Romans 12:6..”We have different Gifts according to the Grace given to us.”

- vi) How many Gifts do we have? Different situations will require a different variety of Gifts to meet the need. It is not impossible for one person to operate in the entire range of gifts over one lifetime. Just be available. 1 Corinthians 12:11.. “All these are the work of the one and same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as He determines.”
- vii) Gifts or Talents? Some argue that talents and other learned abilities should not be classified as Gifts. Because God is the Creator of man, we should not limit His Sovereignty to bestow certain aptitudes, or genius upon anyone. Therefore the source of competency, ingenuity and proficiency is God. We will study these in this way:  
**Talents:** Are acquired skills and will be stated as unique abilities from God.  
**Gifts:** Are stated as true Gifts and will be stated as Divine Abilities from God.
- viii) Titles and functions: Man’s hang-up with titles, and ecclesiastical mumbo-jumbo can result in giving titles that are completely unrepresentative of god’s original purpose for that individual. Just because a saint prophesies it doesn’t mean they are a Prophet. It means they are to function in the Gift of Prophesying. The title should be authenticated by observable fruit if we bestow upon one Teacher or Apostle, or Evangelist. (see Romans 12;6-9)
- ix) Our Call and assignment: Every Christian has a mandate to participate in the Great Commission. Every Believer has a unique assignment from God to serve. It is up to the individual to prepare themselves, respond and develop ongoing maturity. Every Gift contains a calling. If you have the ministry of helps, then go help. If it is to give, then give. Without the call, attempts to place oneself in a particular ministry often brings great frustration, no matter how much training is sought. It is God who places us into specific callings, and we should be ready to respond at any time.. Without a true call, there is a lack of conviction, persistence, tenacity, anointing and assurance that we are doing what God wants. (See Ephesians 4:11-13).. Romans 11:29

says this..”**The Gifts and calling are irrevocable’.**

- x) Maturity takes time: There is no crash course in Christianity. God gives us a lifetime to get our act together, but the sooner we yield to His dominion the sooner we will enjoy abundant life! When we make a mistake, or sin beyond what we think is God’s ability to reinstate us, His mercy rescues us. a repentant heart is the key. The Gifts are still there, and the calling is as strong as ever. Learning god’s ways takes time. Operating closely and in harmony with the holy Spirit is a lifetime’s endeavour. It takes years to become skilful. Maturity is also measured by our ability to harmonise with other mature Christians, bringing clarity of purpose, agreement, mutual support, joint callings for a Mission, and Christ-like character.
- xi) Overview of the Gifts: There are a multitude of churches and denominations and equally a number of ways to categorise the Gifts of the Spirit. We are using the **Broadband Approach** showing how 30 Gifts and unique abilities can function. Step by step we will explain each Gift more accurately. Why is there such a diversity of approaches? Answer: The Holy Spirit will not be put in a box. He won’t fit! God reveals His own way for each different Church. Therefore in our FGCNZ situation we will look at four **FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES.**
- a) Service Gifts
  - b) Communication Gifts
  - c) Pastoral Gifts
  - d) Evangelistic Gifts
- a) Service Gifts: All of the gifts in the Body are to serve each other, but the following Gifts are uniquely given to serve mankind both inside and outside the Church.
- Administration
  - Craftsman
  - Intercession
  - Giving
  - Helps/Service
  - Hospitality
- b) Communication Gifts: These Gifts function for communicating God’s

unfolding revelation and creative strategies. God anoints some people to be unusually creative. Creativity is from God. Communication Gifts are released to make known to man the unlimited array of God's patterns and revelations for communicating His Truths to the Earth.

- Creativity gifts
- Different kinds of tongues
- Discernment of Spirits
- Interpretation of tongues
- Message of knowledge
- Message of wisdom
- Preaching
- Prophecy

c) Pastoral Gifts: These Gifts are primarily released to help shepherd, pastor and disciple new and maturing Christians. Through these their faith and walk are strengthened. Secondly, they are often released in the market-place to attract non-Christians to a relationship with Christ.

- Counselling
- Encouragement
- Leadership Mercy
- Shepherding (Pastor)
- Teaching

d) Evangelistic Gifts: these are primarily released outside the local Church, mostly for the benefits of the unconverted. These gifts cross-over to aid people within the church, but most often they are released outside to see the workings of the Holy Spirit, and so draw people to Christ.

- Apostle
- Celibacy
- Evangelist
- Exorcism
- Faith
- Healings
- Martyrdom
- Miraculous powers
- Missionary
- Voluntary poverty

*1 Corinthians 14:1..”Follow the way of Love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts.”*

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## **MTFGCNZ: MODULE 2. UNIT 2 “RELEASING SERVICE GIFTS”**

**Principle 1:** ‘Your Gifting will make a way for you.’

**Principle 2:** ‘You may have already been using this ability in the world before you came to Christ. If so, you need to have the Lord redeem it for His purposes, and use it under the power and direction of the Holy Spirit as God intended.’

**Principle 3:** ‘The Lord has created personality traits in each Believer which match up with their gifting, and often when these are recognised by the Believer, they help the Holy Spirit to more easily identify and reinforce that gifting area for that son of God.’

**Prayer:** “Dear Lord, please help me to recognise whether or not this is my Gifting area. If it is, then I will embrace it, and learn how to use it, and with Joy put it to good use for Your Glory within my Local church (or beyond, if it makes that path for me). If it is not, I will recognise it in those who do, understand how they will use it, and encourage them to find abundant fulfilment by doing so. Thank You Lord, in Jesus Name.”

**Introduction:**

Previously we looked at “Your Spiritual inventory”. Now we break our inventory of Service, Communication, Pastoral, and evangelistic Gifts down into the separate sections, and deal with them separately.

**All** of the Gifts are to serve others. Service is the foundation for all ministry. The Greek word for service is ‘Diakonia’.. which means both of these things..”*service*” and “*ministry*”. Anytime you serve others in any capacity you are functioning in ministry. The following gifts obviously qualify you to directly serve people, both in and out of the church gathered.

## **1. ADMINISTRATION:**

This is a Gift of the Holy Spirit, who gives in this package the ability to analyse and understand various organisational structures within the Body of Christ, and put strategies, plans and procedures into place to make sure that the work of Ministry gets done as Christ intends.

Reference: 1 Corinthians 12:28. *“And in the Church God has appointed first of all Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.”*

### **Releasing the Gift of Administration:**

- i) This gift enables persons to steer, guide, and or pilot a department within a Church, or organisation or ministry to more efficient levels. When accompanied by the gift of leadership, it enables a person to:
- Plan
  - Set Goals
  - Direct people
  - Manage people

Even without leadership ability such a gifting in a Believer provides a very practical and desired benefit to any Church.

- ii) This gift may also be used outside of the church in the Community, and may give those who have it the opportunity to outreach for Christ, among those where you have been called to use it. In Daniel 2:49 we read..”Moreover, at Daniel’s request, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshak and Abednigo **administrators** over the Province of Babylon, while Daniel himself remained at the Royal Court.
- iii) In times of strong growth.. those with this gift are a tremendous asset to a growing Church. The wise Pastor of a rapidly growing church would utilise those with the gift of administration to insure efficiency and long-lasting ministry. **Note:** Because patterns of Christian service are similar to those in the world, unless we recognise it and do something to correct it, we will end up with.. a season of enthusiasm; followed by a season where enthusiasm and application level off; and

finally followed by a season where commitment, enthusiasm and application wain, and the ministry may cease. The consequence is that the individual thinks that their diminishing enthusiasm means that they are to start looking for a new 'thing'. This is unhelpful, and erroneous and fleshly.. and so they need to get back to the Giver, and work afresh in the Holy Spirit. Disciples of Jesus, need discipline in their service. There are times when we simply do as Israel did.."**they made their hearts willing**". In Titus 1:5 Paul speaks to Titus saying..'The reason I left you in Crete, was that you might straighten out that which was left unfinished, and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.'

**What are some of the personality traits of an administrator:**

- They enjoy analysing ways people have organised a ministry, and may come up with more efficient ways of doing things;
- They quickly understand the dynamics of a task, and suggest how it can be done more effectively;
- They are usually well organised themselves, and will offer better alternatives to solve problems;
- They can readily pick up any assigned task, do it competently, and finish it efficiently.

**Task:** Who do we recognise among us as having this gift? Let's pray for them, and encourage them in the future to keep on, keeping on for Jesus!

**What are some of the practical applications of administrator which may point strongly to this gifting?**

Church administrator    Administrative assistant    Attendance monitor

Curriculum co-ordinator    clerical worker    data entry operator

event planner    information booth worker    office assistant

Music department co-ordinator    News article layout    Receptionist

Researcher    room reservationist    voluntary administrator

Wedding assistant    Word processor

**For further study:** *“kuberneseis” (Gk).. to guide, govern, pilot or steer*

OT. Proverbs 2:21; 14:15; 24:3-4; 24:27. NT Luke 14:29-30; Acts 6:1-7; Acts 27:11; 1 Corinthians 7:17; 11:33; 12:5; 14:26-33, 40, 2 Corinthians 9:12; 1 Timothy 5:17

## **2. CRAFTSMANSHIP:**

This Gift of craftsmanship is the unique ability to construct, repair or make useful goods, articles or structures that help facilitate effective Ministry.

Exodus 31:1-6 *Then the lord said to Moses, “I have filled him(Bezalel) with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts, to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze; to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of craftsmanship. Moreover I have appointed Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan to help him. Also I have given skill to all the craftsmen to make everything I have commanded you..”* (Now read Exodus 35:31-33, 35)

Releasing the Gift of Craftsmanship:

- This gift enables persons to work with their hands to create, build, craft, operate, or repair things to help facilitate ministry.
- Today many believers who are “skilled craftsmen” are releasing this gift as a trade to make a living.. Jeremiah 10:9.. *“What the craftsman and goldsmith have made is then dressed in blue and purple, all made by skilled workers.”*
- There is a continual need for craftsmen in all areas of Christian work..1 Chronicles 29:3-5. *..this Holy Temple, the buildings, for the gold and the silver work, and all the work to be done by craftsmen.* E.g. The very first Team I took to Fiji was to build part of a Church Building, while at the same time we ran crusades. There is a full-time ministry run by Believers here in NZ to build a Church, as long as we provide land, materials, food and accommodation.
- Most of the silver and gold craftsmen in the NT were employed in making idols..Acts 19:4.. *a silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in no little business for the craftsman.*

### Practical Applications where this Gift is released:

Carpenters Mechanics Seamstresses Electricians Jewellers  
hobbyists welders engineers painters plumbers carpet layers  
cabinet makers fabricators staging assistants lighting assistants  
equipment maintenance overseas building projects toy repairs  
*Church Buildings locksmith Computer repair and upgrading Software  
trouble-shooting lawn-garden projects*

Practical: Proclaim.. “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because He has Anointed me to have His guidance and help as I do it for Christ’s Glory”

### **3. GIVING:**

The Holy Spirit gift of Giving is the unique ability to generously and cheerfully provide personal resources of money, food and other material possessions to those who are in need.

Romans 12:6-8 ..*we have different Gifts according to the grace given to us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve... if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously.*

### Releasing the Gift of Giving:

- exercise it in an inspired fashion, and for a mighty supply of goods so they might be able to use this Gift mightily for his Glory as they continually give away money, food and other possessions. Holy Spirit, not emotional appeals moves this son of God; and inexpressible joy will be the result. ..*2 Corinthians 9:7..”Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver”*
- This gift is often released when a true need concerning the poor is revealed.. *Proverbs 22:9..”A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.” “When you give to the poor, you give to God” Deuteronomy 15:10..”Give generously to the need/needy and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord will Bless you in all your work and everything you put your hand to.”*

- **All** Believers are to participate in this gift on a weekly basis to meet the needs of the local church, God's flock..*1 Corinthians 16:2 ..On the first day of every week (Sunday) each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come, no collections will have to be made (See Hebrews 7:1-10)*
- The Believers attitude to tithing is easily found in the Bible.  
..*Matthew 23:23.. "you give a tenth of your wealth of spices, mint, dill, cumin.. you should have practised the latter without neglecting the former."* See also 2 Corinthians 8:12; Deuteronomy 14:22-29; Malachi 3:10
- Releasing the Gift of giving to Missions is a Biblical pattern.  
..*Philippians 4:15-16... Not one Church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only.. you sent me aid again when I was in need. (Also see Acts 11:29, Matt 5:42, Leviticus 25:35)*

#### Characteristics of a person releasing the Gift of Giving:

- Ability to make wise purchases and investments
- Has the desire to give quietly
- Likes to use giving to motivate and encourage others
- Is alert to needs of those often overlooked by others
- Depends on their partner's counsel to confirm the amount of the gift
- Experiences great joy when their gift is an answer to specific prayer
- Wants their gift to be of high quality
- Likes to feel a part of what they give to.

#### Common misunderstandings about giving:

- Some people are involved with very large sums, but it is not a reflection on what some may interpret as a taste for this world's goods.
- Increasing the effectiveness of a ministry by gifts is not an attempt to control it.
- Encouraging others to give doesn't mean that the encourager is wrong.
- Some people are very frugal, but this frugality is not selfishness.

Decide to Give and seek opportunities to release this Gift of giving:  
Giving through tithing, and over and above this other special needs is sowing into the Kingdom of God. Whatever you sow you will receive back pressed down, shaken down and running over. Some of our projects are:

- Building program
- “Stage One” Mission to 10,000
- Foursquare Missionaries Ron and Debbie Brown in PNG
- Ministry Training costs .

#### **4. HELPS:**

This Gift of Helps and/or Service is the unique ability to recognise the needs of others and willingly serve them by helping in whatever capacity is needed... *1 Corinthians 12:28...In the church God has appointed first of all apostles.....gifts of healing... those able to help others.. Romans 12:6-7.. we have different gifts according to the measure of Grace given to us.. let us use it in proportion to our faith..”*

#### **Releasing the Gift of Helps/Service:**

- Releasing the gift of helps results in becoming great.. says The Word. Others may never know your name. It is often released behind the scenes to make possible and successful the ministry of those who are familiar to the Church. Jesus says, you will be first in His sight... *Mt. 20:26-28 “.. whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave, just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.”*
- By helping or rendering assistance in the local church, especially to the weak, needy or outcast.. this is the primary way this Gift is released...*1 Thessalonians 5:14.. We urge you brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone.*
- The primary function of the Gifts of the Spirit is to serve one another. When we serve others we are actually serving Christ!...*1 Peter 4:10-11... Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s Grace in whatever forms... if*

*anyone serves they should do it with the strength that God provides..”*

- Service is the foundation of all Ministry. The first-up reason for serving others is obedience to The Word. The true reason in showing willingness to serve is that you wish to make another’s life better...*Philippians 2:3-5... “in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should not only look to your own interests but to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus..”*

#### Seeking opportunities to release the Gift of Helps, and or Service:

Helping or assisting in ANY activity where your Flock gathers. Helping from the Creche to the “River” program to every other Adult church activity. Greeter Usher Car-parking Office help maintenance and cleaning praying for the needs of the Church... pickup and delivery drivers attendance keeper classroom setup setting-up and taking down kitchen helping hospitality assisting serving meals and refreshments toilet cleaning

*“You be doers of The Word and not hearers only, otherwise you are deceived” James 1:22.*

#### **5. HOSPITALITY:**

The gift of hospitality is the unique ability to provide for the physical well-being of others by offering food, accommodation, comfort or rest. Romans 12:13..”Share with God’s people who are in need”

1 Peter 4:9 ...”Offer Hospitality to one another without grumbling”.

#### Releasing the gift of Hospitality:

- **Whenever** we welcome others into our home or place of fellowship by providing personal attention to their current needs. *Acts 16:15..”if you consider me a Believer in the Lord, come and stay at my house.. and she persuaded us.”*
- The release of this Gift may result in unusual Blessing!..*Hebrews 13:2 ...”Do not forget to accommodate stranger for in doing so many have accommodated angels unawares” (Gen 18:1-8 Abraham)*
- Leaders in the Church will often release this Gift as part of the

qualification for being a leader.. 1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:8

- In the Early Church, widows who demonstrated hospitality and other good deeds qualified to be cared for by the Church. 1 Timothy 5:9-10..*No widow need to be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty... is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds."*
- As a local flock becomes larger and larger there is an increasingly critical need for the Gift to be released on every occasion by welcomers, greeters, ushers, and hospitality workers. People with the gift of Hospitality love to entertain and make people feel comfortable. They are happier when serving their guests. They seldom apologise for the state of their home when guests arrive unexpectedly.

#### Opportunities to release the Gift of Hospitality:

Hospitality co-ordinator    Refreshment Team    Greeter    Usher  
Host/Hostess for small Groups    Dinner's co-ordinator    Shut-ins  
visitor    Visitation team member.

#### **6. INTERCESSION:**

The Gift of intercession is the unique ability to stay in close personal relationship with the Holy Spirit, this being directed by Him into frequent and prolonged periods of Prayer. It will involve contending in Prayer for others, resulting in remarkable answers to those prayers...*1 Timothy 2:1-2..."I urge then, that first of all, that requests, prayers and intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone... for kings and all those in authority, that we may live quiet and peaceful lives, in all godliness and holiness.. Romans 8:26-27 "In the same way The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what to pray but The Spirit helps us by interceding for us with groans and words that cannot be uttered..."*

#### Releasing the Gift of intercession:

- The primary release of this Gift is when Believers pray for the needs of others instead of for their own...Ephesians 6:18-20..*"And*

*pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of Prayer..”*

- This Gift enables the Believer to correctly intercede for others, according to the leading, understanding and knowledge the Holy Spirit already has of that situation...*Romans 8:27..”And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of The Spirit, because the Spirit interceded for the saints 9through the saints) in accordance with God’s will..”*
- The “groans” in Romans 8:26 could refer to expressing ‘spiritual truths’ in spiritual words given to the intercessor, who may or may not understand them with his mind....*1 Corinthians 2:13..”This is what we speak, not in words taught to us by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words..” 1 Corinthians 14:14-15..” For if I pray in a tongue, my Spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.. so I will pray with my Spirit, and also pray with my mind.”*
- We should follow Jesus as the greatest example of the Intercessor..*Hebrews 7:25..”He is able to save completely those who come to god through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.”*

#### The Characteristics of an intercessor:

- They have a deep need to pray for others with all kinds of prayers and petitions;
- They are diligent to pray for others on a regular basis;
- They have a very deep and personal relationship with God
- They receive instructions from god fo0r what and whom to pray
- They are able to receive foreknowledge from God.

#### Conclusion:

Jesus is our Greatest intercessor.. not only praying on behalf of Peter in Luke 22:32, but on behalf of all of us disciples in John 17. Then in the most selfless of all intercession He petitioned God on behalf of all those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34). In heaven He now intercedes for us His Church (Hebrews 7:25); and Holy Spirit pleads on behalf of the individual Christian (Romans 8:26,27). Finally because of their unique relationship to god through Christ **everyone of us saints are urged to intercede for all people**

1 Timothy 2:1)

Seek Opportunities to release the Gift of intercession:

Prayer team member    Intercessors team member    back-room  
intercession during the service    Prayer Chain member    personal prayer  
warrior    Prayer partner    Hospital prayer Team member.

MTFGCNZ MODULE 2: UNIT 3

**“RELEASING COMMUNICATION GIFTS”**

i.e. How God talks to anyone in this world.

God gives these Communication Gifts so that He can reveal what He desires to His Family; and also the ‘yet to be convinced’ unbelieving world. Jesus demonstrated all these gifts, and God gives several of these to each one of us, as He purposes for our role in “The Visible Body of Christ”. ***All of these Gifts are designed to bring “Peace” in the life of those ministered to.***

For example: If they don’t know the way to Salvation’s eternal Life, they can hear it revealed, and the burden and bruising of sin can be washed from their soul by Jesus’ Blood, and they can be at peace with God; and then invite Jesus, The Prince of Peace to come in, and manifest the opportunity to radiate Peace through their life each day. Result: Peace with God, and then daily Peace through Christ’s Spirit. Through this Father God shows us His Love and His Merciful, All-powerful grace. *“For God so loved the World, He gave His only Son..”*

What are these Communication Gifts?

1. Creativity Gifts
2. Different kinds of Tongues
3. Interpretation of Tongues
4. Discerning of spirits
5. Message (Word) of Knowledge
6. Message (Word) of Wisdom
7. Preaching
8. Prophecy

**1. Creativity Gifts:**

**God the Creator** is still creating full-time! Romans 1:20..’For since the Creation of the World, God’s invisible qualities.. His eternal Power and his Divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what He has made (and is making) so they are without excuse’.. We are God’s Creation, and He builds into us Creative Gifts such as :

Worship leading

Playing musical instruments

Singing

Creative dance

Spontaneous songs to The Lord

Graphic Art

Illustrations.. Painting... Folk Art

Multi-media and video production, sound recording

Dramatic production

Poetry

Creative Writing; Inspired writing to preach The Word

Architecture

No, we don’t find the term “Creative Gifts” in the Bible. It is a summary of all the broad assortment of unique talents **which release God’s invisible qualities, and Biblical Truths**. King David, Solomon, Michelangelo, Handel, Keith Green, Christopher Wren,

Isaac Watts, Martin Luther, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of Acts, Hillsong etc. **GOD IS REVEALING HIMSELF**, and speaking to us, THROUGH HIS CHILDREN!

Opportunities to release this Gift:

Multi-media presentation    worship leading    singers    dancers    card and book display    drama    mime    all musical instruments    artists    illustrators    poets    Software design    writers    choreography    song writers

...These are released both inside and outside the Church by Christians for The Glory of God. You know when it is God revealing Himself through one of these Giftings because it will invoke in you a response "Praise God!"

Further Study: 1 Corinthians 14:15; Ephesians 5:19; Psalm 33, 68, 81, 95

## **2. Different Kinds of Tongues:**

This is a Divine ability given to a Believer to speak words uttered by the Spirit of the Lord in them, which they have not learned with their mind. If this occurs away from a private setting for the Believer, in a public setting then an interpretation of those things should be given to edify those present. 1 Corinthians 12:7-10 "Now to each one the manifestation of the the message of Wisdom, to another the ability to speak in different kinds of tongues" ... 1 Corinthians 12:28.. "And in the church God has appointed first of all Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues"

Releasing the Gift of different kinds of tongues:

This Gift is released in two dimensions.. private and public.

Private Prayer language. This is available to all and every Believer. Jesus said this Gift would accompany those who believed it was for them. You will experience a "quickenings" or "friendly handshake around your heart" by Holy Spirit if this is for you...Mark 16:17.."These signs will accompany those who believe.. In My Name they will speak in new tongues". In Jude it says.."Build up your most Holy Faith praying in the Holy Ghost".. and so there is an internal work the Holy Spirit does within us to strengthen our faith in God.. by praying as the Holy Spirit leads us, either in a language we haven't learned, or Words that are able to come forth from our mouths, and we say.."That wasn't me saying that!" Of course it was you, but you sensed an inspiration which wasn't your own. Paul says..I pray in tongues more than anyone else"..**because the bottom line is.. The Spirit of God is praying through us**". Do not be surprised at this.. for Jesus Himself said.."open your mouth and I will fill it".

If the Spirit of the Lord is praying mysteries through you to Father you may ask Him to interpret this for you. It's just that most of the time we don't sense

the necessity to do this.

Public Prayer Language: When this is used “in the Church” it will need interpretation, otherwise it is out of order. Not all Believers have this dimension of release in public... 1 Corinthians 12:28-30..”In the Church God has appointed first of all Apostles....etc... and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Prophets? Teachers?.. Do all speak in tongues?”.. Answer: No, not in the Church.

### **The outworking of this Gift:**

This Gift enables the Believer to release unlimited praise and reverence to God, while ‘edifying’; or ‘building up’ himself at the same time...1 Corinthians 12:2,4,14..”For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no-one understands him; he utters mysteries with His Spirit.. he who speaks in a tongue edifies himself.. If I pray in a tongue my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful”.

This Gift provides a tremendous avenue of singing full, uninhibited and joyous melodies of personal and corporate worship directly to the Lord... see Ephesians 5:19,20..

This Gift needs to be authenticated by those in authority in the Church, otherwise unbiblical excess will lead to unbelievers feeling unwelcome...1 Corinthians 14:23..”So if the whole church comes together, and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand, or some unbelievers come in, they will say that you are out of your mind.” Note: It also says..”Do not forbid the speaking in tongues” 1 Corinthians 14:39.

**When there is a Godly balance in it’s use, it will be just another beautiful part of public prayer and worship.. and not present any negative issues whatsoever.**

### **Opportunities to publicly release of this Gift:**

(Church leadership present) Prayer Meetings, Intercessory Prayer Meetings, Praise and Worship times, prophetic gatherings and Conferences.

*Practise praying and singing in tongues.*

## **3. Interpretation of Tongues**

This is the Divine ability to say in the listener's language what has been spoken by God with the Gift of different kinds of tongues to build the Church up....*1 Corinthians 12:7-10..*"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another... the interpretation of tongues."

Illustrations of How this may happen:

- i) By the Holy Spirit bringing to your mind a Scripture
  - ii) By the Holy Spirit presenting you with a 'vision' of what is being said, and you interpret that with His wisdom and speak it out.
  - iii) By the Holy Spirit putting the words into your mind and you utter them faithfully in the stream He gives you.
  - iv) By the Holy Spirit visually showing you a stream of words in your mind, and you are literally reading them off, as they move across in front of you.
- It is Equal to the Gift of Prophecy in that it should bring edification to the Church..*1 Corinthians 14:5..*"he who prophesies is greater than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the Church may be edified. **The interpretation should strengthen, encourage and comfort.**"
  - It can only occur after there has been a message from God in tongues: "*If anyone speaks in tongues, two or three at the most should speak, and one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in Church and speak both to himself and God.*"
  - Church leadership need to monitor and authenticate this Gift. A Pastor should get the interpretation, even if someone else is the interpreter. If the leadership don't interpret, they will have a "witness" from the Holy Spirit on the basis of which.."two or three witnesses" can determine it's veracity.
  - Those who speak in tongues may also pray for the Interpretation and give it: "*The man who speaks in a tongue should pray that he might interpret what he says.*" *1 Corinthians 14:13.* Those who have the Gifts of speaking and interpreting should practice in private to gain competence, before sharing in The Church.

- The content of the Interpretation comes in many forms, but it should always bring clarity of what the Holy Spirit wants to be said at a gathering. ..1 Corinthians 14:6.. “Now brothers if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy, or word of instruction.”

***In your Housechurch you may wish to practice praying in tongues with the interpretation of tongues.***

Further Study: Acts 2:1-13; Ephesians 6:18, Jude 1:20.

## **4. Discerning of Spirits**

When employing this Gift, a supernatural perception is given by the Holy Spirit to be able to distinguish the source of the spiritual activity. It clearly reveals whether the activity is Divine, human, or demonic...*1 Corinthians 12:7-10..”Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through The Spirit the word of wisdom, to another the... distinguishing between spirits.”*

### **God cares a great deal about His Gifts bearing fruit..**

#### **Releasing this Gift:**

The Holy Spirit reveals the presence, activity and often name and location of the spirit or spirits within the person, or on the outside oppressing them. These insights come in many forms:

Illustration: I know a man who asked the Lord for the Gifts of Healing in January 1978, and He told him that He would give them after he had received the gift of Discerning of spirits, and the exorcism of demons. He humbly asked Him if he could steer clear of this because he’d had too much wrong experience in witchcraft; but He firmly told him that he would need this first, because many areas of healing had a demonic element that needed to be discerned and got rid of first. The man received that Gift, and unsolicited five lots of teaching source arrived from different people the following week. Klaus Koch’s..”Psychiatry and the Demonic”; Derek Prince’s full teaching

tape series on “Discernment and Exorcism”; etc. etc. He studied it all exceedingly careful, and got his first case on the Saturday night at mid-night when a stranger called pleading for help because his wife was so possessed. A few hours later when he was taking the first Church Service of the day, a new family came up to him after the service, and told him that God had told them to sell their house, and leave an excellent Pilot Instructors job in another city, and come and help him to minister widespread deliverance for those captured by demonic spirits. He and his brother had spent many years working with Marcus Arden.. and he, Aldis, arrived ‘out-of-the blue’ ready for action. The two worked in great harmony for over two years, often 2 to 3 nights a week until 2am in the morning. They saw hundreds set free, and there were so many needy that in the end they would get up to 30 people together, and set them free in one mass deliverance. At each discernment Aldis would have the Holy Spirit speak clearly to him the name and location of the spirit(s) in the person. The man asked for the Lord to kindly give it to him in a clear “TV-like” picture inside the person.. and He did! So the man would draw a quick sketch with the name and location of the spirit(s), and Aldis would check it against his discernment, and in over 90% of situations we would both get the same information. If they didn’t and one would discern another spirit, they would always both agree it was there and would kick it out.

Opposition comes especially with this Gift: Some church people rose up against him, and took him before the Elders to have it stopped. Some other Pastors would manifest over him in ‘dignified’ Presbytery meetings.. spitting and yelling until they ran out of huff, and then they’d all continue with the meeting. Some people sitting in Church services would suddenly feel very aggressively angry towards him when he was preaching. Others would come from other churches to disrupt the meetings and say that this was satan at work... *1 John 4:1-3.. “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”*

- One of the effective ways to also ‘test’ the spirit of a person to see

whether they be of Christ, the flesh or satan is to engage in conversation involving **the Blood of Jesus** (Revelations 12:11). The truth surrounding the all-powerful Blood of Jesus will almost always flush out “the counterfeit” or false believer.

- When malevolent spirits are revealed, mature Christians should give an immediate response:. *“I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; and nothing by any means shall harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits must submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.” (LUKE 10:19-21)*
- When evil spirits manifest openly: a mature Christian should take the all-powerful Name Of Jesus Christ the Lord, and In His Name set the person free. This will involve both the gift of exorcism and the gift of faith. The more a Believer is in close relationship with God, the more likely demonic spirits are to manifest.

Further Study: 1 Samuel 16:14-23; 1 Kings 22:19-25; 2 Kings 1:9-12; Matthew 12:43-45, Mark 1:23-26; Mark 5:2-19; Mark 7:25-30; Mark 9:17-19; Acts 5:1-3; Acts 16:16-18; Acts 19:11-16; Revelations 16:13-14.

Some extra Information:

- i) It is good to operate this gift in two's especially if it is brothers dealing with a sister.
- ii) Reading a passage like Mark 5:2-19 can often cause the spirit to want to exit faster.
- iii) Sometimes the person delivered may be exhausted, or 'torn'.
- iv) If a spirit has been there for many years, then a “a few more days” before the 'right' time to deliver the captive won't do any harm..(Derek Prince). At the same time be aware that a spirit like e.g. suicide, or murder probably needs to be dealt with ASAP. Someone may need to stay in support until the situation is resolved.

**5. Word of Knowledge, or God's Message of Knowledge**  
***'Things are revealed so people get healed'***

***God doesn't stop speaking.. " we need to have the ears to hear what He is saying"***

The Word of Knowledge is a Divine revelation from God, about situations either past or present of which He makes man aware. This knowledge is communicated spontaneously from God to man, through the Spirit, to bring clarification, wholeness and restoration to the lives of those present.

Illustration: I know of a man who was running a Crusade in the Ba Stadium in Fiji. Before he had gone to take the crusade, one of the Fijian sisters who had been providing hospitality for his Team came to him in tears, indicating that her husband was in the process of running away with another woman. He prayed with her that her husband would be Divinely restrained, and see the error of his ways. They held hands and agreed on the basis of Christ's promise.. *"If any two of you shall agree on Earth as touching anything, it shall be done for you by your father who is in heaven."* (Matthew 18:19) With much on his mind, and leaving the situation in the Lord's hands; several hours later he stood up to preach Salvation & Miracles. Suddenly the Holy Spirit spoke into his mind a very specific Word of Knowledge. He spoke it out straight away... *"There is a man, seated up there, in the back at the top of the stadium, who tonight is strongly tempted to run away from his wife and begin a family-destroying adulterous relationship"*. Amidst the couple of thousand people, a man suddenly started running down the steps, and rushed out in front of the dais, and fell down in repentance and began to weep. From an entirely different part of the stadium, a woman came rushing across to him, and bent down, and began to comfort and hold the man. The preacher could hardly believe his eyes.. it was the sister he had agreed with in prayer, many hours before, and this was her husband, who who had come with the 'other woman'. The husband and wife received counselling, and he deliverance as well, and they are reconciled to this day as one.

1 Corinthians 12:7-10: *Now to each one, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the Message of Wisdom, **to another the Message of Knowledge** by the same*

*Spirit.”*

## **Releasing the Word of Knowledge..**

- When Believers receive spontaneous and creative words in the spirit of their mind, interrupting their current thoughts, a Word of Knowledge has been received. The Holy Spirit’s timing will most often coincide with the circumstances requiring the Word. There will be a “confirming witness” within the person that accompanies the Word. Holy Spirit hears this from Father God. John 16:13-14.. *“He (The Spirit of Truth) will only speak what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come”.*
- At the discretion and timing of the Holy Spirit, any Believer is a candidate to release The Word of Knowledge/Word of Wisdom.  
*1 Corinthians 12:6.. “There are different kinds of workings, but the same God works all of them, in all men.”*
- When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, God can reveal “the thoughts of God” (or Messages) to us. *1 Corinthians 2:10-16.. no one knows the thoughts of God, except the Spirit of God.. that we may understand what God has freely given us.. in Words taught by the Spirit, expressing Spiritual Truths in Spiritual Words.”*
- Words of knowledge contain the essence of prophecy or a prophetic Word.
- Words of Knowledge will always agree with, but never modify or contradict The Word of God. They will always glorify Christ, and clarify God’s purposes as He states in the Bible...*John 16:13-14.. “But when He, The spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into all Truth. He will speak on His own, he will speak what He hears, and He will tell you what is to come. He will bring Glory to Me, by taking what is Mine and making it known to you.”*

Further reference: John 4:16-42; Acts 5:1-19.

Opportunities to operate in this: Anytime, anywhere the Holy Spirit prompts.

Note: Words of Knowledge may be sought from God at any time to be used for His Glory in an event where ministry is about to take place. I know of a

man who would seek God before a Meeting and receive as many as God wished to give, and he would record them, take them to the Meeting and speak them out, and see many, many healed, delivered, encouraged or whatever God desired. After all, God knows who will be there, and what their needs will be, and there He can speak to them about their circumstances which He is able to also heal and restore.

## **6. Word of Wisdom**

The Word/Message of wisdom is a Divine revelation from God revealing to man His Plan and best course of action for a given situation. God releases it spontaneously into a person, giving wisdom on how to proceed in His will. It provides wholeness, restoration, peace; and/or strength to get applicable ways forward in times of confusion, perplexity, trial, or danger. <sup>1</sup> *Corinthians 12:7-10..”Now to each one, the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit, the message of wisdom, to another the word of Knowledge by the same Spirit.”*

Illustration: At the Council of Jerusalem (Acts 15)..there was controversy over which beliefs held by the Jewish Christians should also be common to the Gentiles. Some of the Pharisees who became Christians said..(verse 5) “It is necessary for the Gentiles to be circumcised, and to command them to keep the Law of Moses”. Peter replies..”God has made no distinction between them and us, purifying their hearts by faith, so why tempt God by seeking to put a yoke on the neck of His disciples which neither our fathers or ourselves were able to bear. We believe that through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ both we and they shall be saved.” (verses 9-11). After a period of silence by the whole of this First Christian Assembly, James (Jesus’ half –brother) stood, and came forth with a Word of Wisdom that settled everything...”***My sentence is this that we trouble them not... but that they abstain from the pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.***” (verse 20) The result was.. “It pleased the apostles and the elders to send letters off to the Churches. Doctrinal and Theological **problem solved!**

## **Releasing the Word of Wisdom..**

These spontaneous and creative Words which God puts into the Spirit of

the mind, will interrupt their current thoughts, and enable a Believer to know what needs to be done regarding the situation they are in. It is God's perfect Will for what is happening. The response in the bearer of this Word, after they have spoken it.. will often be "Wow where did that come from.. that could only have been the Spirit of the Lord, because I didn't consciously think that up myself" .. and to the hearers, it will be the joy of a solution which they can easily apply, and get on with the next thing on hand... *John 16:13-14.. The Spirit of truth... He will only speak what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come*".

- This direct wisdom is from God, and is beyond man's Wisdom.. 1 *Corinthians 2:13.. This is what we speak, not in words taught to us by human wisdom, but in Words taught by The Spirit, expressing spiritual Truth in spiritual words.*... and "I will give you Words and Wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to refute or contradict." *Luke 21:15.*
- The contents and source will point to Jesus and will Glorify Him... *James 3:17... "But the wisdom that comes from Heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving; considerate, merciful, submissive, full of good fruit, impartial and sincere."*

**Opportunities to express it:** Anywhere, anytime the Holy spirit prompts. It happens when Believers gather; in times of personal ministry to others. The more a Believer is in close Communion with God, the more likely they are to happen.

**Further Study:** John 11:4-23; Acts 8:26-29

## **7. THE GIFT OF PROPHECY**

Prophecy is the Divine enablement to receive and communicate the essence of God's strategies to his people through a Divinely Anointed utterance...*Romans 12:6.. "We have different gifts, according to the Grace given to us. If a man's Gift is prophesying then let him use it in proportion to his faith (in God)"*.

There are Three levels of Prophecy:

1<sup>st</sup> The Spirit of Prophecy: When the Spirit of Prophecy is moving, all

Spirit-filled Believers can potentially prophecy. 1 Corinthians 14:31; Numbers 11:16-25; Acts 19:1-6

2<sup>nd</sup> The Gift of Prophecy: The person with the Gift of Prophecy can prophecy consistently, and effectively, allowing other Believers to critique and evaluate what was said. E.g. 1 Corinthians 12:10; 1 Corinthians 14:3.

Illustration: I know of a man with the Gift of Prophecy who on an altar call had 71 persons come forward for Prophecy. He prophesied over each one as the Spirit gave him utterance for the next three hours. Seven years later he was back in that congregation, and there were still many people there who had been prophesied over when he previously ministered to them, and they came to him, and Glorified God that those things by sharing that all those things which he had previously prophesied had come to pass.

3<sup>rd</sup> The Ministry of the Prophet: The ministry of the Prophet is Christ's gift to the Church to help bring us to maturity. The Prophet reveals God's Word for the Church's understanding and application. He foretells things to come. Becoming a true prophet requires integrity, maturity and a calling that has been affirmed and authenticated by mature leadership. ..1 Corinthians 14:29.. "*Two or three prophets should speak, and others should weigh carefully what is said.*"

**Note**: The ministry of the Prophet and Preaching are similar giftings. Preaching is forth-telling the Word of God for that moment; while Prophecy is foretelling the Word of God for that Church(s).

Illustration: I know of a man who walked into his study, and through the window he could see lambs bouncing around in lush green pastures, and playing 'King-of-the Castle' on a dirt mound. Holy Spirit spoke to him and said.. "*There is going to be a drought, and those fields will be brown and dusty within three months, and I will not bring rain, and the heavens shall be shut up as brass until this people are called to repentance for dishonouring the Creator by offering these lambs to a demon-god as they are slaughtered and exported. In six months when there has been no rain, call those who have a right heart to repentance, and then I will open the Heavens and bring rain to pass.*" He told his elders a week later, and they all raised their eye-brows, said nothing, and moved on to the next item of business on the

Agenda. Six months passed and the drought was savage.. not a drop of rain fell; so the man went to the local newspaper, and asked them to publish what God had said, and advertise a “Repentance Service” for the following Wednesday night. A hundred farmers turned up, and the sin of idolatry was confessed and repented of. During this time the Lord spoke to the man, and told them to come back again the following Wednesday night and offer Praise to God for Love and Mercy, and He would send the rains. The next Wednesday night they assembled, and offered great praise and worship to God. As they were leaving, the skies suddenly darkened, the clouds rolled in, and it began to pour, and did not stop for the next six days. Those people knew, and will never forget that our God reigns, and will not be mocked!

## **Releasing the Gift of Prophecy:**

**2 Peter 1:21..**”For prophecy never originated in the will of man, but men of God spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” When these words are proclaimed, God will indicate who they are for, and it is normally, but not always other Christians.. but it can spread out from there to a whole region, or a nation. Prophecy that elevates or draws unnecessary attention or glory to an individual is suspect. Mature leadership need to authenticate it.

Every Christian: has the potential to prophesy...*1 Corinthians 14:31..*”For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged.” The Holy Spirit can have you practice in your own quiet time, you making sure that what is said agrees with the Word of God. Sometimes for a people He will give it ahead of time, but most often He will give it at the time. It requires true obedience and faith on the part of the Believer who brings it. The timing is often crucial. Only the Holy Spirit knows the best time for everything.

Further References: John 16:13-14; Acts 13:1-4

## **8. Gift of Preaching:**

The gift of Preaching is the unique ability to be a herald (*2 Timothy 1:11*), announcing the full proclamation of the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus

Christ.

**It needs to be The Word that the Holy Spirit has brought to the Preacher for that occasion.. because the Preacher has sought the Spirit of the Lord.** If he/she hasn't sought the Holy Spirit, then that Word is a false word, because it has not met the requirement.. "*Hear what the Spirit is saying unto the Church!*" (Revelations 2:29).

*Matthew 28:8-20.. "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All power is given unto Me in Heaven and in Earth.. you go therefore and teach all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.. teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you.. and look I am with you always even unto the end of the world. Amen."*

*Mark 16:15.. "the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them, and confirmed His Word by the signs and wonders that accompanied it."*

God's commands to Preachers of His Word are:

- i) 2 Timothy 4:1-4: "*I charge you therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His Kingdom.. Preach the Word; be instant in season out of season; reprove, rebuke with all longsuffering and doctrine.. for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itchy ears, and they shall turn away their ears from the Truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*"
- ii) 1 Peter 4:11: "*If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister let him do it as of the ability which God gives; that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to Whom be praise and dominion forever and ever.*"

**Christ must be the center of all preaching.. it must all point to Him, and come back to Glorify Him. Don't preach it, if it doesn't..** *John 16: 13-15*

*(extracts)"The Holy Spirit will not speak from His own initiative, but what He*

*hears He will speak.. and He will show you things to come.. and He shall glorify me.. He will take that which the Father has which are Mine.. and He shall take that which is Mine and reveal it to you.”*

## **There is a distinct enablement, calling or Anointing for releasing the Gift of Preaching. 1**

*Corinthians 9:16..”Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel.”*

Other facets of this Gift:

- i) It should not be confused with prophecy or teaching...*1 Timothy 5:17..”The elders who direct the affairs of the Church well are worthy of double honour, especially those whose work is labouring in preaching and doctrine”.*
- ii) The release of preaching will often open the way of Salvation, healing, and other gifts of the Spirit... *1 Corinthians 2:4.. “My message and preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power.”* When the Word is proclaimed in places where there are a lot of the unsaved, it will often create demonstrations of the Holy Spirit’s power. For example, when the Truth regarding healing is preached, many will get healed. When the Truth about the demonic is preached, demons will often manifest their presence so that the people can be set free, so that many will get both delivered and saved. **The Holy Spirit only needs an inspired Word proclaimed and a listening audience in order to show the Glory of God!** Now is the ‘Day of Salvation’ so go and preach everywhere you can. (James 1:22)

Further Study:

Mark 1:39; Luke 4:43; Acts 10:42

### **MTFGCNZ MODULE 2 UNIT 4: PASTORAL GIFTS**

The term “pastoral” is commonly used to describe the duties of those whose task it is to primarily care for the souls of the “flock of God. However this is in general extended to include wholistic care. The basic forms of Pastoral Care come through Gifts of the Holy Spirit focusing how to give counsel and

instruction regarding living a life which is dedicated to Christ. This involves shepherding, pastoring, teaching, and discipling new and maturing Believers.. and is summed up in the phrase..”The cure and care of souls”. Of course, in the market-place these Gifts are released as well to show that the Love and Compassion of Christ is for the whole world.

## **1. THE GIFT OF COUNSELLING:**

Definition: The unique ability to collect, accurately interpret and apply the broad counsel of God well enough to be able to advise people to be able to understand and apply Biblical choices; as well as heal them from either the previous lack of, or wrong choices and influences of the past.

Proverbs 12:15: The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.

Proverbs 15:22: “Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers, they succeed.”

Releasing the Gift of Counselling: The Holy Spirit is our Advisor/Counsellor. The Counsellor must have one ear on Him, and one ear on the client, so that it is the Spirit of the Lord who is bringing the wisdom, and to God be the Glory for the success it brings.

Psalm 16:7.. “I will praise the Lord who counsels me, even at night my heart instructs me.”

John 14:13..”When He the Spirit of Truth is come, He will guide you into all Truth..”

“You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free”.

Isaiah 11:2.. “And the Spirit of the Lord God shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord”

Isaiah 28:29..”All this comes from the Lord God Almighty who is wonderful in Counsel and magnificent in Wisdom.”

The result of God’s counsel.. Psalm 73:4.. “You guide me with your counsel, and afterwards you will take me into Glory.”

Because of many troubling circumstances in the Church of today there is a growing need for those who can effectively release the Gift of Counselling. For example, Jethro was a wise counsellor to Moses, suggesting he allow other leaders to give advice to the masses.. Exodus 18:19,24.. “Listen to me now and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you...and Moses listened to his father-in-law.”

## **Opportunities to release this Gift:**

Doing a full MTFGCNZ Counselling Course or other approved Course so as to  
Pastorally assist within the local Church                      Assisting the Pastor in  
Counselling      Assisting with mini-counselling courses such as marriage  
enrichment, financial management, pre-marriage preparation.. and becoming  
involved in Holy Spirit ministry on Altar Calls.

Further Study: Matthew 27:19; John 16:13-14; Acts 5:35, Revelations 3:18.

## **2. THE GIFT OF ENCOURAGEMENT (Exhortation)**

Definition: The unique ability to co-operate with the Holy Spirit’s intention of becoming another person’s advocate by aiding, encouraging, exhorting, comforting and consoling them.

Romans 12:6-8 “We have different Gifts, according to the Grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying let him use it according to the proportion of his faith... if it is encouraging, let him encourage..”

The need for the widespread use of this Gift: I know of a man who was brought up in a negative environment of discouragement. Spoken over him were proclamations such as.. you will fail.. you won’t get anywhere... and so he tried hard to perform and succeed through being driven by this negative whip of discouragement. While he succeeded, it scarred his soul, and he did not believe that he was successful; and worse still he used that same whip of discouragement on those around him.. without fully realising it. One day he saw an Educational Training Documentary, in which a student came up to his teacher and blurted out..”You don’t encourage, you discourage!” Those words went like shock-waves deep into his soul, and he got a revelation that he in fact was just like that student’s teacher. He examined his soul, and realised on deep reflection that it was absolutely true... he had the ministry of discouragement

through negative motivation, and so he vowed that while the Apostle Paul spoke in tongues more than anyone else, he would encourage people more often than any other Saint.. and his life has been one of encouraging... even the smallest signs of life in people. His neighbours and his Christian Family.

## **Releasing this Gift:**

**A high percentage** of Believers will have this Gift. It is the most active Gift of all, and the most needed among the Brethren. 1 Thessalonians 5:11..”Therefore encourage one another, and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” Hebrews 3:13..”But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sins deceitfulness.”

Our Words will be like those of our Lord.. Matthew 14:27.. But Jesus said to them immediately.. Take courage it is I. Don’t be afraid.” Isaiah 41:13..”For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says “Do not fear, I will help you”.

It is released when we exhort or encourage others at the right time, with the promises of the Bible; the joy of Eternal life; God’s faithfulness towards us; the results of being in Christ; etc. Acts 15:30-31..”The men were sent off and went down to Antioch, where they gathered the church together and delivered the letter. The people read it, and were glad because of it’s encouraging message. Jude and Silas who themselves were prophets said much to strengthen and encourage the brethren.”

Sincere, inspired encouragement is one of the best evangelistic tools as well, because through it we may open positive conversations about the goodness of God, and He can help in their circumstances.

**Opportunities for releasing this Gift:** Ushers Greeters .. EVERY department in the Fellowship Team leaders must have it, especially in Children and Teens work where the soul is setting it’s own recipe for life!

Further Study: “*paraklesis*” (Comforter, Counsellor).. a calling to one’s side to to bring exhortation or encouragement.

Acts 14:21,22; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7; Philippians 4:2; 1 Timothy 1:3-5; Hebrews 13:18.

### **3. THE GIFT OF LEADERSHIP**

This unique gift enables one to be set over the affairs of ministry, or local church in order to render faithful aid in directing its services.

Romans 12:6-8 “We have different gifts, according to the Grace given to us. If a man’s gift is.....leadership, let him govern diligently..”

### **Releasing the Gift of Leadership**

- i) It is released when a Believer intuitively discerns a need for leadership, and rises to assume that responsibility. Leadership also enables a Believer to see the long-range picture of ministry and get others involved to get the job done.

Isaiah 6:8 “Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying..”Whom shall I send?” And “Who will go for us?” And I said.. “Here I am, send me”.

- ii) This gift can be imparted, but it is most times learned by associating oneself with those who are “ruling”, and releasing the gift of leadership. A leader quickly learns how to delegate responsibility (“delegate or die”), making it possible and easy for someone else to pick up some of the leader’s tasks of responsibility, and carry these on for him, and complete them.

1 Kings 19:19-21 ‘So Elijah went out from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat. He was ploughing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak over him. Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah, and became his servant.’

- iii) Character of Leadership: The characteristics of spiritual leaders are plainly outlined in the Bible ( 1 Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:6-9). These passages are referring to bishops, elders and deacons, but the principles apply to all leadership. They are to be above reproach, temperate, honest, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, teachable, not quarrelsome, not a recent convert, good reputation with outsiders, upright, holy and disciplined. True leaders desire to carry out their responsibilities quickly and faithfully so that

everything can come together as has been planned. Leaders also want to move onto new challenges once their goals have been achieved.

- iv) The release of this gift was command respect and appreciation from mature people who are being 'ruled' by that leader.  
1 Thessalonians 5:12.. "Now we ask you brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord, and who admonish you. Hold them in then highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other."
- v) Leaders will listen to input from their workers, but will have the experience and wisdom to make the final and best decision for the accomplishment of that ministry because they can 'see' the overall picture.
- vi) Maturity as a Christian is often needed before assuming a responsible role in the local Church.  
1 Timothy 3:2,6 "The overseer.. must not be a recent convert".

## **Opportunities to lead..**

Any situation that requires someone to lead people such as.. Pastoring, Groups, Youth, Children's Church, Outreaches, Assistant Leader/ Junior Leader, Coach, Prayer team, Missions Team and Apostle.

Further Study: Luke 9:51; Acts 7:10, 9:15, 13:2; 15:7-11. Romans 12:8, 1 Corinthians 1:27-29.

## **4. MERCY**

This is the unique ability to sympathise with the hurts and miseries of others by showing pity and compassion and responding cheerfully.

Romans 12:6,8.. "We have different gifts... if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully".

Matthew 5:7.. "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

## **Releasing the Gift of Mercy**

- i) This gift is often released when as Believer encounters anyone experiencing pain, hurt or disappointment, and immediately

- empathises with them, and offers them compassionate support.  
 Luke 6:36..”You be merciful, just as your Father is merciful”
- ii) Because God is rich in mercy, this gift should increase in those who seek a deep, personal relationship with the Holy Spirit.  
 Ephesians 2:4-5..”God who is rich in mercy.... Created us in Christ Jesus to do good works”.
- iii) To some extent all Christians will release the gift of mercy when appropriate.  
 Micah 6:8..”he has shown you O man what is good, and what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”
- iv) Following Jesus’ example, those who have the gift of mercy will soon learn to release the gifts of healing. (Matthew 15:21-28; Luke 17:11-14)
- v) Every Christian is expected to be merciful. This is a role that reflects the Fruit of the Spirit. Those with the gift of mercy make compassion and kindness their lifestyle. They don’t just respond in emergencies, but continually see opportunities to show pity for those who are depressed, rejected or miserable.
- vi) The personal characteristics of those who are strong in mercy:
  - Are very conscious of the mercies of God towards themselves, and have a high empathy one to one with those in need of compassion.
  - Easily identify with and draw close quickly to those who are hurting or distressed.
  - Will react in compassion, pity, gentleness, forbearance and a high sensitivity to emotions in others.
  - Will have a need to “fix’ or remove the hurts in others.
  - Will minister to unbelievers as well as fellow believers.

**Opportunities..** Reaching out to assist the poor, the downcast, the hurting, the prisoners, the blind, the aged, the rejected, the ugly, the handicapped, the hospitalised and the shut-ins, and the forgotten of this

world.

Further Study: Matthew 25:34-40; Acts 9:36-42; Romans 9:15-23; 2 Timothy 1:2-18; James 2:13-17.

## **5. SHEPHERDING PASTOR**

Definition: This is the Divine enablement to assume the spiritual responsibility for a group of Believers by supervising, guiding, teaching, and caring for them. This is one of the five-fold ministry giftings ..

Ephesians 4:7. *“But unto every one of us is given Grace, according to the measure of the Gift of Christ..(see 1 Corinthians 12)*

Ephesians 4:11: *“And He gave some apostles; and some prophets; and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.. for the perfecting of the saints, to do the work of ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ.. till we all come in unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto the perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”*

1Peter 5:1-4: *To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ’s sufferings, and one also who will share in the Glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God’s flock which is under your care, serving as overseers; not because you must, but because you are willing as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples for the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the Crown of Glory that never fades away.”*

### **Releasing the Gift of Shepherding..**

- 1) The primary manifestation of this gift is when a believer eagerly accepts the spiritual oversight of a group of Christians, large or small, and then truly cares for their emotional, spiritual and physical needs.

John 21:15-17: *Jesus said to Simon Peter..”Simon son of John do you truly love Me more than these?” “Yes, Lord, You know that I love You”. Jesus said..”Feed My lambs, take care of My sheep.. Feed My sheep”.*

- 2) The Believer will in some specific sense, that is discernible to him, and to those who are discerning..” a sense of call”.. which authenticates the release of this Gift.

Jeremiah 3:15.. “I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will

lead you with knowledge and understanding”

- 3) A true pastor will follow the voice of the master Shepherd.. Jesus, and as a result most pastors will merely acknowledge that they are “under-shepherds” following Christ. They are more concerned about the flock, than a title or recognition within the community; but obviously in most cases they will still have a title for reference as to their Gifting.
- 4) The release of shepherding over the years will eventually result in the release of the gift of “teaching” ..”feeding the sheep”; healing emotional wounds; developing unity; and unity of purpose within a group of believers; and helping them to find their own gifts and continue growing and maturing in the faith. Eventually a shepherd will inherit increased responsibility as an overseer, and this will come from the Lord.  
*Acts 20:28: “Keep watch over yourselves, and all the flock over which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the Church of God which Christ has purchased with His own Blood.”*
- 5) The most effective Pastors are those who have served for years under a more mature pastor, and have made themselves directly accountable to him, for he is accountable to Christ for that flock. Pastoring is best experienced by following the example of another more experienced shepherd. Serving as a volunteer or part-time staff person is the best way to allow the gift of shepherding to clearly emerge and be recognised by the Body of Christ. Exposure to a breadth of knowledge of the whole field of Biblical Pastoring over an extended period of time for the purposes of absorption, assimilation and correct application of this knowledge will mean greater health for the sheep, and a more confident proficiency for the shepherd.

## **Opportunities for releasing this Gift:**

Housechurch leaders; children’s church leaders; Prayer team co-ordinators; hospital visitation team member; counselling team person; mercy team leader.

Further Study: Warnings: Jeremiah 23:1-4; 25:34-36; Ezekiel 34:2-23, Zechariah 10:2

N.T. John 2:10-16; 10:1-18; Acts 14:23; 1 Thessalonians 5:12; 1 Timothy

3:1-7; 4:11-16; Titus 1:5-7

## **6. TEACHING**

Definition: Teaching is the Divine enablement to accurately analyse, interpret and communicate knowledge about the Word of God in ways that are culturally relevant, timely and individually applicable to the lives of the listeners.

1 Corinthians 12:28.*In the Church, God has appointed first of all Apostles, second Prophets, third Teachers.. then..."*

Ephesians 4:11-12.*It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service..."*

### **Releasing the Gift of Teaching:**

- i) It enables the Believer to know the mind of the Holy Spirit so that they can get hold of insights and principles that can be easily applied to bring growth and spiritual health in themselves and The Body of Christ at large. Truth is put into easily understood forms, which leads people into the next stage which is revealed truth which builds upon their existing knowledge, and God helps them to apply lasting information of freedom.
- ii) Any Believer may function in teaching. However some are afforded a measure of Grace and the Anointing which confirms their appointment by God to function this way. This will be evidenced by their passion and temperament for teaching. Romans 12:6-7..*"let him use this gift in proportion to his faith"*.
- iii) The teacher's knowledge and depth of maturity will govern the type of audience being taught. Proficiency will increase over years of practice.
- iv) Teaching requires many hours of study, preparation and research, and gathering visual aids and examples, that will facilitate making a lasting impression upon their audience. A wise teacher makes learning a joy. It requires listening for God's wisdom, and flowing with His Anointing as he teaches.
- v) The release of the teaching gift carries a serious responsibility. James

3:1 *‘Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach shall be judged more strictly.’*

#### Characteristics of a Teacher:

As a teacher grows in Grace and Anointing, many of the other Communication and Pastoral Gifts will be released. A teacher will believe that their gifts are foundational to other gifts, and will emphasize accuracy, test the knowledge of those who are being taught, and delight in exhaustive research. They will also be systematic in their presentation, use colourful illustrations, and seek not to be misunderstood. They water what others have planted, are given to many words, diligent to be factual, willing to learn from others, and use an abundance of Scripture to back up a presented Truth.

### **Opportunities for release of this Gift:**

Bible Study teaching, Sunday School Instruction, substitute teacher, seminar teacher, Conference Teacher, Team Teacher, National Lecturer.

Further Study: Jesus: Matthew 9:35; 11:1; 13:54; 21:23; 28:19-20; Mark 10:1; Luke 21:37; Hebrews 5:12; Acts 13:1; 18:24-28; Acts 20:20-21; 2 Timothy 1:11; 1 Corinthians 3:5-11.