

DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

“Eagerly pursue Love, yet desire Spiritual Gifts...”

- 1st Corinthians 14:1

Class 13

Mercy

- Literal Meaning:

- To have compassion
 - The ability to cheerfully and practically help those suffering or in need

- Supporting References:

- Romans 12:6-8

- 6) Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;
- 7) Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;
- 8) Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

- Matthew 5: 7

- 7) Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

- Mark 10:46-52

- 46) And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.
- 47) And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me.
- 48) And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.
- 49) And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.
- 50) And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.
- 51) And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.
- 52) And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

• Luke 10:25-37

- 25) And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?
- 26) He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou?
- 27) And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.
- 28) And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.
- 29) But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbour?
- 30) And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.
- 31) And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.
- 32) And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.
- 33) But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,
- 34) And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
- 35) And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.
- 36) Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?
- 37) And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

• James 2:11-13

- 11) For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.
- 12) So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.
- 13) For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

• Characteristics:

- People with this Gift:
 - Focus on alleviating the sources of pain in suffering people

• James 2:15-16

- 15) If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food,
- 16) And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

- Serve in difficult or unsightly circumstances and do so cheerfully
- Concern themselves with individual or social issues that oppress people

- Traits:

- Empathetic, Caring, Responsive, Compassionate, Sensitive

- Cautions

- People with this Gift:

- Need to be aware that rescuing people from their pain may be hindering God's work in them
- Need to guard against feeling "unappreciated" since some of the people helped will not show or express any appreciation
- Need to beware of getting angry about the sources of other's pain