

# DESIRING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:1

Class 17

## Shepherding (Pastoring)

- Literal Meaning:

- To shepherd a flock
  - The ability to nurture, care for, and guide people toward spiritual maturity

- Supporting References:

- Ephesians 4:11-12

- 11) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
- 12) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:1-4

- 1) The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- 2) Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- 3) Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- 4) And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

- John 10:1-18

- 1) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
- 2) But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
- 3) To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.
- 4) And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

- 5) And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
- 6) This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.
- 7) Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
- 8) All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
- 9) I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- 10) The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
- 11) I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12) But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.
- 13) The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.
- 14) I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.
- 15) As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.
- 16) And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.
- 17) Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.
- 18) No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

- Characteristics:

- People with this Gift:

- Take care to nurture the WHOLE person in their walk with God
    - Model with their life what it means to be a fully devoted follower of Jesus
    - Establish trust and confidence through long-term relationships

- Traits:

- Influential, Nurturing, Discipling, Protective, Supportive

- Cautions

- People with this Gift:

- Need to remember that God judges those who neglect or abuse their respons.
    - Need to be aware that their desire to help may make it difficult to say “No”
    - Need to remember that some of the flock may be beyond your ability to help