

SPIRITUAL GIFTS:

Knowing how you fit into the Body of Christ



19. MERCY – Romans 12:8

“The supernatural ability to have compassion on those least deserving. People with this gift are drawn to those in distress or despair because of offenses. They show mercy easily and immediately in situations where it is needed and applies (the conditions are met). These people show mercy to offenders when others do not, will not, or cannot. They do it cheerfully (with optimism and confidence), because they understand the potential for God to do great things with any offender who wants to do what’s right.”

- a. Mercy = Benevolence, mildness, or tenderness of heart that disposes a person to overlook injuries and treat _____ better than they deserve; not receiving consequences rightly deserved – Gen. 19:16 (2 Pet. 2:7); Ex. 33:19 (Rom. 11:32); Dan. 9:9
 - ✓ Abraham (Gen. 24:7), Joseph (Gen. 39:21), Moses (Ex. 33:19), David (2 Chron. 1:8), etc.
 - ✓ Note: We are all offenders who deserve hell! – 1 Tim. 1:15-16; Ps. 103:12

- b. With cheerfulness = optimism, _____ – Matt. 9:2, 14:27; John 16:33; Acts 23:11; Eph. 3:20-21

- c. The call to be merciful – Micah 6:8; Luke 6:36
 - ✓ In the OT tabernacle and temple (earthly image of Heaven’s throne), the place where God sits (sprinkled with blood) is called the _____ seat (22x) – Ex. 25:17, 26:34; Lev. 16:14-15; Num. 7:89

- d. Not showing mercy to someone when it is needed may result in little or no mercy towards _____ when you are judged – Ps. 18:25; 2 Sam. 22:26; Matt. 5:7, 18:21-35, 23:23; James 2:13

- e. Biblical Examples
 - Joseph – Gen. 50:15-21
 - _____ – Is. 55:3; Acts 13:34; Ps. 51
 - Jesus – Luke 9:52-56

- f. Mercy’s great balance is _____. There must be good reason (truth) that justifies the showing of mercy – Ps. 25:10, 85:10, 89:14, 98:3; Pr. 3:3, 16:6

- g. Those supernaturally gifted in mercy are drawn to the downtrodden and tough situations. They must guard their heart and emotions from becoming overburdened. They must show mercy, but ultimately give burdens that relate to it to _____ – Rom. 12:15; Gal. 6:2; Matt. 11:28-30