WORD OF THE DAY



"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, <u>evangelists</u>; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ - *KJV*

(SPIRITUAL GIFTS (Evangelism



Evangelist share the good news. Before He ascended into heaven, Jesus gave the disciples the Great Commission (<u>Matthew 28:18</u>), instructing all believers to go forth and make disciples of all nations. The spiritual gift of Evangelism plays a unique role in anointing some believers to have extra grace in the ability to fulfill this command given to all Christians. In the Bible, the word that is used for an evangelist (*one who does the work of Evangelism*) is euaggelistés(εὐαγγελιστής, oῦ, ὁ). Strong's Concordance(2099) defines euaggelistés(evangelist) as one who brings good news, a bearer of good tidings, and a missionary. The gift of Evangelism means that individuals with this special anointing can overcome the usual fears of rejection to engage non-believers in meaningful conversations about Jesus to share the good news.

Evangelists have a special anointing regarding communicating the good news of the gospel to all those they meet. These individuals have a burning passion for telling others about Jesus above the standard given to all Christians. They experience a sense of restlessness when they are not sharing the good news of Jesus. Although similar to the spiritual gift of apostleship, which also involves sharing the good news, apostles often focus more on building(teaching, training, discipleship) up the people and the institution of the church. In contrast, evangelist focus more on specifically sharing the gospel message to the person(unbeliever).

Evangelist watch and endure. In his letter to Timothy(<u>2nd Timothy 4:5</u>), Paul warns him that "*the time will come when they[people] will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." After this warning, Paul then tells Timothy, "But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*" In his letter to brother Timothy, Paul contrasts two spirits. He contrasts the self-centered and narcissistic spirit of the world, which will lead people to only entertain(*listen to and discuss*) things that sound good to them, with the Spirit of an evangelist, which leads the evangelist to talk about Jesus. First, Paul tells Timothy to watch all things, and second to endure afflictions. In watching all things, the evangelist is aware of what is happening in the world and able to take the latest news headlines(war, racism, sexism, pollution, corruption, economy, etc.) and use them as a springboard into a conversation about Jesus. This allows evangelists to be relevant and relatable in their message delivery. Second, in enduring afflictions, Paul makes Timothy aware the there will be much resentment and difficultly that comes with sharing the good news of Jesus.

Evangelist today. Unlike apostles who are called from, and sent out of, their local congregation to share the good news, the spiritual gift of evangelism allows evangelist to carry out their ministry in the course of their everyday life. When many think of an evangelist, they first think about a tel-evangelist or Christian who shares the gospel through a television program. However, this(televangelism) only represents a very small fraction of those blessed with this spiritual gift.

Tom is anointed with the spiritual gift of evangelism and commutes every day on the subway to work. One day Tom notices that a passenger enters the train, and there is no spot for the passenger to sit. Being aware(watching) of this, Tom offers his seat. The passenger gratefully accepts and sits down. After the passenger thanks Tom for his act of kindness, Tom uses this as an opportunity to engage the passenger in conversation. As their conversation continues, Tom notices that his subway exit is coming up soon. Tom is also aware that his talk with the passengers is getting more substantive, and he does not want to end it abruptly. Tom decides to purposefully miss his exit(enduring affliction) to continue the conversation with the passenger until he shares the good news of Jesus. At the next train stop, Tom exits the train after leaving the passenger, who has now been introduced to Jesus and was given an invitation to Sunday service at Tom's church. Tom arrives to work 5 minutes late, and since being tardy(late) is unusual behavior for Tom, his supervisor excuses him without penalty. Tom starts his day with a smile on his face, fully satisfied, feeling accomplished as his day begins because the good news has been shared.

-Your brother in Christ, WNL

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Find your Spiritual Gift(s) and, find your purpose. (Discover it, Develop it, Demonstrate it)

Apostleship, Prophecy, <u>Evangelism</u>, Pastoring, Teaching, Encouragement, Knowledge, Wisdom, Assisting, Giving, Leadership, Compassion, Faith, Discernment, Miracles, Healing, Tongues, Interpretation.

Next week we examine the gift of Pastoring

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, have you called me to be a evangelist? Is the gift of evangelism one of the spiritual gifts which you have blessed me with for the purpose of ministry? Lord, if this is my spiritual gift, give me the passion to share the good news, the ability to watch and be relevant to the culture, and the strength to endure all difficulties, all for the purpose of sharing the good news. In Jesus' name, I pray, amen.

***This group email is sent to many individuals besides you. It is sent blind copy (BCC) to respect the privacy of member emails. ***



CLICK HERE TO -- View Past Video Devotionals

Click to Unsubscribe

