

PREPARED TO LIVE IN VICTORY: USE YOUR GIFT FOR GOD TO BE GLORIFIED

Houses of Light Church • November 26-27, 2022 • Pastor Netz Gómez

1 Pet. 4:11

“whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

I. INTRODUCCIÓN

- A. Today we are going to talk about how the gifts of God, His Word, His power and His glory come together to fulfill the ultimate purpose that God wants. As we have seen, we have all received a gift and as good stewards of God's grace we must use it to serve one another (**1 Pet. 4:10**).
- B. In today's verse the Holy Spirit through Peter speaks to us more specifically about the kind of gifts that are manifested when we come together to serve each other. As we have seen, gifts and grace are not the same. **Grace** is all those diverse things that come from God and that fill our gaps and meet our needs of all kinds. The **gifts** are the peculiar capacities that God gives to His children to minister this grace to one another.
- C. If we try to take a shortcut and just want to receive grace directly from God instead of placing ourselves under the preciousness of church and friendship groups where we minister grace to one another, we are depriving ourselves of a source of blessing that is very crucial.

II. SERVING EACH OTHER WITH THE RESOURCES GOD GIVES

1 Pet. 4:11a *“whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies...”*

- A. Peter is talking about two capacities to channel God's grace; **speaking and serving**; Now these gifts are not mutually exclusive. When we speak we are serving people and when we serve, we can mix our actions with words. Do not think that speaking is not serving and serving is not speaking.
- B. The question is, if you are going to exercise your gift and minister God's manifold grace to others by speaking or serving, **how do you do it in such a way that it is God's grace that they receive?** Peter gives us two guidelines:
 - 1. **Speak according to God's words:** We must speak to each other the words that come from God not our ideas. We must not think: *'what is needed here are my words or opinions; I can minister God's grace in my natural ability;* Rather what Peter is saying is: *'if you only have your words, people are not going to experience God's grace through your gift.'* **If you want people to experience God's grace you must be prompted to speak God's words.** This means that you are going to be saturated and

guided by God's words in everything you speak if you want to administer God's grace and have Him glorified..

Col. 3:16 *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God."*

a) So don't let your words dominate you; be dominated by the truths of God in all your efforts to minister grace to people.

2. Serve according to the power that God gives: We must depend on the strength and power of God to serve one another. The Holy Spirit is telling us not to **lean on your own ability**. If you lean on your own strength instead of God's, how do you expect people to receive God's diverse grace when you're the one doing all the action?

Pr. 3:5 *"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding,"*

- C. When you are ministering you must ask yourself, am I doing it in my capacity or with the power that comes from God? One way to verify this is to ask ourselves who gets the glory when you use your gift and what kind of fruit is being produced?

Matt. 15:30-31 *"And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them, 31 so that the crowd wondered, when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they glorified the God of Israel."*

Jn. 14:10b *"...The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works."*

- D. Tenemos muchas oportunidades para administrarnos unos al otros la gracia de Dios pero esta gracia no puede abundar a menos que nos apoyemos tanto en el poder de Dios como en Su palabra.

III. HOW IS GOD GLORIFIED IN THE USE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS?

1 Pet. 4:11b *"in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ..."*

- A. The whole goal of using these gifts is for God to be glorified through Jesus Christ for that reason we focus on God's words and relying on God's strength because we want people to taste God's grace so that the Father can be experienced. as glorious; that as good stewards we say and do things that make him look like he really is all glorious.

1 Pet. 4:11c *"...To him [God] belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen"*

- B. Peter ends with this explosion of praise by declaring that to the Father and to the Son belong glory and dominion forever and ever. **The reason we must give Him the glory is because it is His and not only the glory but also**

the dominion forever. The absolute reality of the universe is that glory and dominion do not belong to man, nor to the universe. God carries the universe like a peanut in His pocket so we make it our goal to glorify God in the way we serve one another. That's what Peter has already said:

1 Ped. 2:12 *"Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation."*

- C. The aim is that when people experience our acts of love born in the resources that God gives, they will see Him as glorious and glorify Him. Glorifying God is the pinnacle of our joy. **We try to minister grace to people in need so that they overcome their problems and experience joy in God and we do it so that God receives the glory and He receives it when we experience Him as our supreme joy.**

IV. USANDO NUESTROS DONES CON DETERMINACIÓN Y EXCELENCIA

Rom. 12:3-8 *"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."*

- A. We must recognize who we are in Christ and the gift we have. We should not underestimate our place in the body of Christ by comparing ourselves to someone else. We all have a role that God gave us and we must focus on operating to the best of our faith and ability. Our goal is to grow in faith and in our ability to administer God's grace with the gift He gave us, not so much to be someone else's copy.
- B. Passivity, laziness, fear and disbelief are enemies to be overcome in order to not waste the gift that God gave us and for which he will ask us to account.

2 Cor. 5:10 *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil."*

V. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Write how you consider that you are operating in your gifts in the different areas of your life: in your family, your ministry, your work and the community and share it with your Friendship Group.

2. How can you make sure that you are speaking the words that God gives?
3. Do you consider that you are serving with the power that God gives?
Explain
4. Do you believe that you are operating faithfully in the gifts that God has given you? Explain

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Corporate Prayer this Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m.
2. Adolescents service on Sundays during the 11:00 a.m. service.
3. If you have felt the call to serve in worship at Houses of Light; On Saturday, December 3, the auditions for musicians and singers will take place at 9:00 a.m. Please register at: www.housesoflight.org/worship