

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 4
“To Each One of Us a Gift Was Given”

Ephesians 4:7-10

To live in a manner worthy of my calling is to use the gift Christ has given me,
serving my brothers and sisters in the church.

1. Christ’s Giving of Gifts

*“But to each one of us grace was given v. 7
according to the measure of Christ’s gift.”*

**(1) Christ Himself has established
a diversity among us!**

- Unity, not uniformity! - our individuality is not obliterated!
- We differ in gifts – Christ has made it so

(2) Every one of us has been gifted by Christ

“to each one of us”

- no one has been overlooked!
- each gift is necessary for the edification and growth of the Body

(3) Each gift is indeed a gift!

“grace was given”

- thus described as “grace” given
- these gifts are not merely “natural”
 - they are first spiritual in character
 - they are spiritually enabled or empowered

**(4) Christ Himself has determined differences
between us according to our gifts**

“according to the measure of Christ’s gift”

- E.g., - some expressed very publicly; others expressed privately – even intimately
 - some closely associated with the means of grace;
 - others more closely associated with the fruit of the Spirit
- All are given by Christ and empowered by Him and glorify Him!

(5) The gift He has given is to be exercised particularly in the church!

- 1- Exercised expressly for the sake of others
 - exercised in love; an expression of Christ’s love and care
- 2- Exercised expressly for the sake of *other members of the Body*
 - so promoting the unity of the body

2. How Christ has secured these gifts – and What it should mean. vv. 8-10

- (1) Given out of the bounty of His conquest and triumph** *“Therefore He says:
‘When He ascended on high,
He led captivity captive,
And gave gifts to men.’”*
- He ascended to the place of absolute power!
 - Here is the promise of effectiveness and enablement!
 - The gifts He has given, He surely purposes to empower!

- (2) Given as the fruit of His condescending love** *“Now this, ‘He ascended’ –
what does it mean
but that He also first descended
into the lower parts of the earth?”*
- His was the ultimate condescension!
 - Is any gift too lowly?
 - Is any gift or service insignificant to Him?
 - He humbled Himself that we might be fitted for service!

- (3) Given for His glory alone** *“He who descended is also the one
who ascended far above all the heavens,
that He might fill all things.”*
- Our gifts to be exercised first for Him, and unto Him
in humble service to Him and for His glory

Further Application:

1. How are you serving your brothers and sisters here at NCCC?
The exercise of your gift serves to promote the growth and unity of the Body!
2. How has Christ gifted you?

In what ways are you particularly motivated to serve?
What do you enjoy doing for others?