

# Seven Practical Spiritual Gifts

## *The Gift of Mercy*

(Romans 12:8)

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### *Expounding the Word of God*

- I. Prophecy—The Inspiration of Truth
- II. Ministry—The Incarnation of Truth
- III. Teaching—The Interpretation of Truth
- IV. Exhortation—The Intention of Truth

### *Expanding the Word of God*

- V. Giving
- VI. Ruling
- VII. Mercy “...he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.”

*Mercy—To show mercy, to show compassion, extend help for the consequence of sin, as opposed to, to be hardened. The general meaning is to have compassion or mercy on a person in unhappy circumstances, to be pitied, obtain mercy, implying not merely a feeling for the misfortunes of others involving sympathy, but also an active desire to remove those miseries.*

- A. The first mention of mercy in Scripture is when the Lord saved \_\_\_\_\_ and his family from the destruction of Sodom (Gen. 19:15).

- 1. Lot made \_\_\_\_\_ choices that brought him and his family into danger (Gen. 13:11–13).

2. The Lord determined to \_\_\_\_\_ Sodom because of its sin (Gen. 18:20–23; II Pe. 2:6).
  3. In spite of Lot’s foolish choices, he was \_\_\_\_\_ before the Lord (II Pe. 2:7–8).
  4. The Lord was \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_ in taking Lot and his family out of harm’s way (Gen. 19:15).
- B. The relationship of Love, Mercy and Grace (Eph. 2:4–5)
1. God’s nature is \_\_\_\_\_ (I John 4:7–8).
  2. God’s Mercy brought the plan of \_\_\_\_\_ to mankind (Psa. 103:8; I John 4:9–10; Rom. 5:8).

*“Mercy is that in God which duly provided for the need of sinful man.”* Chafer

3. Grace is \_\_\_\_\_ to meet the need of the sinner (Eph. 2:8–9; Heb. 4:16).

*“Grace is that in Him which acts freely to save because all the demands of holiness have been satisfied.”* Chafer

4. Grace requires man to acknowledge their sinful state and their need for Christ’s sacrifice (John 1:12).

### C. How mercy works through believers

1. Mercy is an \_\_\_\_\_ of God's love (Luke 6:36).
2. Mercy provides \_\_\_\_\_ for someone that doesn't necessarily deserve to be helped (Rom. 5:8; Ja. 2:13).
3. Mercy does not negate \_\_\_\_\_. People must repent of their actions (John 8:1–11).
4. God wants His people to be merciful (Matt. 5:7; 9:13; 12:7).

### D. Characteristics of merciful people

1. Humility (Matt. 5:7)
2. Forbearance (Eph. 4:1–3)
3. Compassion (Psa. 78:37–38; 145:8; Matt. 9:35–36; 18:26–27)
4. Patience (II Tim. 2:24)
5. Kindness (Psa. 119:75–77; Isa. 54:8)

### E. The ministry of mercy

1. Showing compassion to the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 7:11–14).

2. Quick to \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 15:20).
3. Always willing to give someone another chance (John 8:11; I Tim. 1:13)
4. Empathize with and willing to help those that are hurting (Luke 10:33–35; Heb. 5:2).
5. Willing to fill \_\_\_\_\_ needs (I John 3:17).
6. Drawing close to those that are \_\_\_\_\_ or left out (Matt. 20:30–34).

F. Concerns for those gifted with mercy

1. Becoming too emotionally invested and losing our joy (Rom. 12:8)
  - Cheerfulness—gladness
2. Minimize the importance of truth and repentance (Matt. 9:13)
3. Easily hurt due to sensitivity (II Cor. 12:15)
4. Short circuiting the purpose of suffering in someone's life (I Peter 1:6–9)