**CHRISTIAN STEWARSHIP**

**Text: I Peter 4:10**

* 1Peter 4:10 As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

**INTRO:**

* Stewardship-the office, duties, and obligations of a steward
* The conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially : the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care
* Steward- one who manages another's property, finances, or other affairs.

**AIM:**

* For us to be good stewards of manifold grace of God

**I. CONTEXT**

* The end of all things is at hand
* Therefore be serious and watchful in prayers-v 7
* Above all things have fervent love for one another-v 8
* For love will cover a multitude of sins-v 8
* If we don’t love one another we cannot minister unto them
* We cannot render any service for them nor share our gifts
* Love is what makes us give away the gifts
* Be hospitable to one another without grumbling-v 9

**II. WHO RECEIVED THE GIFTS OR HAD THEM?**

* Each one-v 10
* There is no single person who received Christ and remain ungifted
* We can’t just be bothered what our gifts are
* When we believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour, He has given us the Holy Spirit and the gifts
* Rom 11:29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

**III. THE VARIETIES OF GIFTS**

**1. Preaching**

* They should do so as one who speaks the very words of God

**2. Serving**

* they should do so with the strength God provides
* So that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

**3. Five Fold Ministry**

1. Ephesians 4:11
2. Apostles
3. Prophets
4. Evangelists
5. Pastors
6. Teachers

**4. Miracles-I Corinthians 12:28**

**5. Healings**

**6. Helps**

**7. Administrations or leadership**

**8. Varieties of tongues**

**9. Exhortation-Romans 12:8**

**10. Gift of giving**

**11. Gift of mercy**

**IV. PURPOSE OF THE GIFTS**

* 11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,
* 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up
* 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
* 14 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.
* 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.
* To equip His people for works of service-v 12
* For the body of Christ to be built up-v 12
* For us to be united in faith-13
* For us to grow in the knowledge of the Son of God-13
* For us to be matured-v 15

**V. WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH THE GIFTS?**

* Use it or be busy with it
* Do not bury them under the ground
* Luke 19:13 “So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.
* 2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.
* 1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.
* 1 Timothy 4:15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

**VI. CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

* Mat 25:14 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.
* It’s not ours but God’s
* Each one is given according to his own ability-v 15
* Talent- Natural endowment or ability of a superior quality.
* He who had 5 talent gained another 5 and so with him who had 2
* The Lord told them, “Well done good and faithful servant”-v 21
* The Lord is expecting our talents to be doubled-v 22
* The one who buried the talent on the ground was punished-v 30
* For to everyone who has more will be given and he will have abundance-v 29

**CHALLENGE:**

* Are you aware of your gift?
* Have you been using your gift?
* How much time you spent with your gift?

**CONCLUSION:**

* ***1 Peter 4:10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.***