

July 2022: Virtuous & Spiritual Gifts

June Museletter



Thoughts from Jeanne Porter, Founder and Steward of Women in Christian Leadership

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully, administering God's grace in its various forms. - 1 Peter 4:10

Each of us have been given unique abilities, talents, and gifts. The questions are always, are we using the gifts God has given us? And if so, how do we use them?

I believe we are to use our gifts and talents according to how God designed us and His desire for us. We are called to be virtuous in all that we do. Many may think that the talents we use at work are to make us money. Have you thought maybe that isn't the case? That maybe gifts and talents are given to us to benefit others, and the talents of others are to benefit us. Just as our opening scripture tells us, "[...]each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."

Virtue

In Matthew, Jesus gave us a commandment, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "Love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:36-40

Let's talk look at the word virtue. The definition in the Cambridge dictionary is: a good moral quality in a person, or general quality of being morally good. Patience is a virtue. In 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, Paul lists virtues as Faith, Hope and Charity. I like to use God's character as a source of the biblical idea of virtue. It's the Holy Spirit that instills virtue in us as believers, and Christ is the model of virtue for us.

Continued on page 2.

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Continued from page 1.

Spiritual Gifts

Now, let's look at three particular passages of scripture about spiritual gifts:

- 1 Peter 4:10-11, as referenced above.
- 1 Corinthians 12, which speaks to me personally about the diversity of gifts, and
- Romans 12:3-13, which speaks of obvious spiritual gifts, such as speaking/preaching, speaking in tongues, healing, miraculous powers, and prophecy; but also of the simpler gifts of faith, hospitality, mercy, wisdom, knowledge, generosity, service, encouragement, and leadership.

How many of us have asked, "What can I do to serve God?" I know in my younger years, I thought serving God was preaching, evangelism, or serving as a pastor or missionary. Not all of us feel equipped to lead worship or a Bible study. As the years have gone by, I've come to know that if we limit the list to only those obvious spiritual gifts referenced above, it's no wonder many Christians feel ill-equipped to do God's work. We have the desire to serve God and His people, but we don't think we possess the right gifts.

What are ordinary Christians like you and me to do? What spiritual gifts might we have that we can use to give glory to God? Think about hospitality, mercy, service, and generosity. You may be called to motivate others in the completion of goals that ultimately serve Christ. For example, by taking on a leadership position in an organization, you can use your gift to honor Christ. That is what women are doing through Women in Christian Leadership; encouraging, educating, and elevating women in leadership both for today and for the future. We're working diligently to strengthen communities of women's ministry and to provide trustworthy leadership development programs, opportunities, and resources to women. Giving God all the glory for all we do through Him. Maybe there is a place for you to serve through Women in Christian Leadership; we'd welcome and value the gifts you have to share.

In summary, we must recognize that the first step in using our gifts and talents correctly is to understand that, as Christians, we are to use our gifts in context of a moral and virtuous life. That is not always easy. We are human and God recognizes that. Thank God for His Grace.

Until next month, I wish you the best always.

jeanne porter



WELCOME TO... *Lydia's Boutique*



On July 21, Women in Christian Leadership launched *Lydia's Boutique* during a fun-filled evening of sister-to-sister encouragement.

Lydia's Boutique is powered through the partnership with the following women-owned businesses:

Lula Bell Whimsical Cards and Gifts
Amy Gantt

Classic Stitch
Julie Grice

Traveling Pendants
Lesley Jones

We are honored to share with you the opportunity to purchase branded items as well as Jeanne's favorite picks from our partners. A portion of sales will go back to Women in Christian Leadership to support our mission to encourage, educate, and elevate women.



WELCOME TO... Lydia's Boutique



Why Lydia's Boutique?

Lydia is a woman of the bible, a worshipper of God, a leader (referenced in Acts 16: 11- 15). Lydia is a biblical example of a godly woman working boldly in her spheres of influence. She was a successful and independent businesswoman producing purple dye and cloth.

Lydia was a religious seeker; the first in her community to believe in Jesus Christ. When Paul first saw her, she was with a group of devout women who gathered to pray at a place by the river just outside the city.

Today's Lydia may look like this: A CEO of Luxury Textile who hosts weekly prayer meetings and co-founds a Christian organization to fill a need; a persuasive business leader, influential businesswoman, and missionary.

We strongly believe that Lydia is the best representation of Women in Christian Leadership - who we want to be and serve. We hope you find the qualities of Lydia, especially opening her home to become a place of fellowship, synonymous to the sisterhood within Women in Christian Leadership.

Lula  Bell

[Click here to see](#)

Jeanne's picks.

Branded items coming soon.



CLASSIC 
Stitch

[Click here to see](#)

Jeanne's picks for
embroidered wear.

*Branded shirts with faith
messages coming soon.*



Coming soon:
Women in Christian
Leadership and
Strength for the
Journey combine in
a unique pendant.



Scripture Readings: Virtuous & Spiritual Gifts

July's events and teachings are devoted to the theme of virtuous and spiritual gifts:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." - John 3:16

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully." Romans 12:6-8

"I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that." 1 Corinthians 7:7

"Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way." 1 Corinthians 12:31

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith..." Romans 12:6


"Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you" 1 Timothy 4:14

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" Luke 11:13

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

"Now, concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says "Jesus is accursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord;..." 1 Corinthians 12:1-11



Upcoming Events

COFFEE & CONVERSATION PURSUING PREVALENT PEACE IN ALL SEASONS



WITH HOST PATRICIA JOHNSTON
FRIDAY, AUG. 5
9 - 10:30 A.M. ET
VIRTUAL
REGISTER TODAY

DIVINE TABLE TALK FROM PAIN TO PURPOSE



WITH GUEST DR. MISTY LAYNE
MONDAY, AUG. 8
7- 8:30 P.M. ET
VIRTUAL
REGISTER TODAY

VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE HE KEPT HIS ALTER CLEAN



WITH GUEST KELLEY BELL
MONDAY, AUG. 15
7 - 8:30 P.M. ET
VIRTUAL
REGISTER TODAY

COFFEE & CONVERSATION CASTING YOUR CARES



WITH HOST MARILYN CAPORINI
FRIDAY, SEPT. 2
9 - 10:30 A.M. ET
VIRTUAL
REGISTER TODAY

Get Involved

IT'S HER STORY



It's Her Story is a "collective call" to bring the heart, soul, and brilliance of women to the forefront by sharing their unique story of how God has moved in their lives. To share your story, complete this [form](#) and a member of the Women in Christian Leadership team will be in contact.

WATCHWOMEN ON THE WALL



We strongly believe in the power of prayer and are building a prayer schedule such that prayers are uplifted every hour of every day!

If you would like to become a watchwoman, please complete this [form](#) to secure a day and hour that you would like to pray every week. It will be your exclusive prayer hour!

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY



Please share insights about your experience with Women in Christian Leadership and expectations of your membership in this [survey](#). We appreciate your input!

JOIN US



As a professional, a student, a friend, a mom, a minister, a volunteer, you are a leader! By joining us, we believe you'll find great community among other elite, devoted, faithful and phenomenal women who will encourage you along your journey. We hope you'll bring other believers along with you.

Won't you [join us](#)?

Women in Christian Leadership



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