

# PENINSULA CHRISTIAN F E L L O W S H I P

## *Expanding His Ministry*

**Matthew 10:1-7**, And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Now the names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him. These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: "Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'"

**10:1**, And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him

**Luke 6:12-13**, Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles

Matthew is writing to convince Jews that **Jesus is Messiah, God among us!**

Luke is a Greek, writing to convince Greeks of **Christ's humanity**

- That though He is divine, **He is also fully human...**
- **Relying on God** for all He does (**John 5:19**)

- Greeks believed in the total separation of the spirit & the flesh
- They did not believe God would **subject Himself** to human limitations

**10:1**, And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, **He gave them power** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

- Jesus is turning a big corner with His ministry
- He is **gifting & sending His disciples** out to minister in His behalf

**Receiving gifts & power** to minister continues throughout the **NT**

- There are different beliefs about ministry gifts
- Some believe they were **discontinued** after the apostles died
- Some believe all the gifts are **available to all believers**
- Some beliefs are held between those polar opposites
- So we'll look at **what the Bible says** about them

**John 16:7 & 13-14**, Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for **He will not speak on His own authority**, but whatever He hears He

will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for **He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.**

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Jesus does not operate independently (**John 5:19**)

- **Neither does the Holy Spirit**
- God's impartations pass from **the Father**, to **the Son** & through **the Holy Spirit**

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Who gets **what, when, how & why?**

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**Romans 8:14**, For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, these are sons of God.

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**Romans 12:4-8**, For as we have many members in one body, but all the members **do not have the same function**, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us**, let us use them: if **prophecy**, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or **ministry**, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in **teaching**; he who exhorts, in **exhortation**; he who **gives**, with liberality; he who **leads**, with diligence; he who **shows mercy**, with cheerfulness.

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**I Corinthians 12:4-11**, There are **diversities of gifts**, but the same Spirit. There are **differences of ministries**, but the same Lord. And there are **diversities of activities**, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to **each one for the profit of all**: for to one is given the **word of wisdom** through the Spirit, to another **the word of knowledge** through the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healings** by the same Spirit, to another the **working of miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another **discerning of spirits**, to another **different kinds of tongues**, to another **the interpretation of tongues**. But one and the **same Spirit** works all these things, **distributing to each one individually as He wills**.

**I Corinthians 12:28-31**, And God has appointed these in the church: first **apostles**, second **prophets**, third **teachers**, after that **miracles**, then gifts of **healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues**. **Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.**

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**I Corinthians 13:1-3**, Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but **have not love**, I have become **sounding brass** or a **clanging cymbal**. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but **have not love**, I am **nothing**. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but **have not love**, it profits me **nothing**.

- Gifts without love are **worthless & irritating!**

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**I Corinthians 14:1**, Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.

- I may, or may not receive everything I desire
- We leave that up to **the Holy Spirit** & trust **His wisdom**
- But I pursue **what I am determined to obtain!**
- **Christ commands us to love!**

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**John 21:19-22**, And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me." Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "**But Lord, what about this man?**" Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, **what is that to you? You follow Me.**"

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**Don't devalue your gift** because of someone else's

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We know what He sends us **to do (9:37-38)**

- The best way to draw someone else into the harvest (along with prayer)...
- Is give them **an example** to follow – **Yours**
- **John 20:21**, By following His example (**Matt. 20:28**)

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Paul said he **planted** & Apollos **watered**

- Those must happen **so there can be a harvest**
- The planting requires some digging

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What is He sending you **with**?

- **Pursue love and ask Him**
- I admit I asked Him for wisdom (**Prov. 4:7**)
- He promised that one (**Prov.8:17&35**, and **James 1:5**)

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**10:2-4**, Now **the names of the twelve apostles are these**: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and **Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus**, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed Him.

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He gave that power & those gifts **to these men specifically**

- Some gifts are offered **to everyone**, like wisdom & service
- Most are given individually (**I Cor. 12:11**)

- Not all are given to everyone (**I Cor. 12:29-30**)

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**10:5-6**, These twelve **Jesus sent out and commanded them**, saying: “**Do not go** into the way of the Gentiles, and **do not enter** a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

- He also tells us where not to go. (**Acts 16:6-7**)
- Don't assume, and don't choose for yourself (**Gen. 13:10-11**)

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He didn't send me to the bikers & dope dealers

- **He did call me out of things He sent me into**
- Politics, Radio & Prayer Summits

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He did tell them, and us, what the most important thing we have is

**10:7**, And **as you go, preach**, saying, ‘**The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**’

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Every gift used in Christ's love, calls people to the kingdom of heaven. **Eternity!**

**II Peter 3:9**, The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that all should come to repentance.