Areté

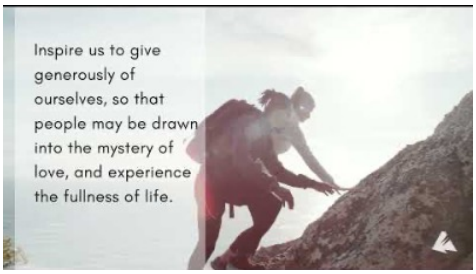
CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

A work of the Missionaries of God's Love

Charisms

Theological Foundations of Mission 13

1



2

The Holy Spirit's Gifts

1. Sanctifying grace – wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, fear of the Lord
2. Charisms – charisms given to individuals as the Spirit wishes, graces of service

   1 Cor 12-14; Ephesians 4:7-16, 1 Pet 4:10-11, Rom 12:3-8

3

Called and Gifted – Catherine of Siena Institute

- Sherry Weddell
- Spiritual gifts or charisms inventories were developed in Protestant churches.
- Called and Gifted is the first inventory in the Catholic Church

4

Charisms

- Are long-term (not temporary)
- Bears results beyond our natural abilities but may be developed
- Received not achieved
- Minority experience
- All of us are called to evangelise, pray for others, but some have charism
- Different between a skill, talent, and charism
- Charisms can be distorted because of our sin, but not used for evil
- Not the same as consolation, mystical experience

5

When we Exercise a Charism

- We feel energized
- It 'fits', feel we have found our place
- We are fruitful without excessive strain or struggle
- Experience of joyful satisfaction

6

Gift Mix

- The particular *combination* of charisms that God has given *you.*
- Most are given more than one charism.
- Charisms work together.
- Each charism affects how other gifts are expressed.

7

Types of Charisms

- *Pastoral:* nurture of individuals and community
- *Communication:* communicating truth to change lives
- *Organizational:* structuring an organization or group
- *Lifestyle:* a lifestyle and freedom for unusual ministry
- *Healing:* channeling God's healing and restoration
- *Understanding:* the ways of God and humanity
- *Creative:* creative activity that orders and beautifies.

8

Pastoral Charisms

- Focus is upon the personal nurture of individuals and communities
  - Encouragement
  - Helps
  - Hospitality
  - Mercy
  - Pastoring

9

Pastoral Charisms

- Encouragement: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love—*nurturing others through his or her presence and words of comfort, encouragement, and counsel.*
- Helps: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness—*using his or her talents and charisms to enable other individuals to serve God and people more effectively.*
- Hospitality: empowers a Christian to be a generous channel of God's love *by warmly welcoming and caring for those in need of food, shelter, and friendship.*

10

Pastoral Charisms (cont.)

- Mercy: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love *through practical deeds of compassion that relieve the distress of those who suffer and help them experience God's love.*
- Pastoring: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love - *building Christian community by nurturing the relationships and long-term spiritual growth of a group.*

11

Communication Charisms

- Focus is upon transforming lives through communicating truth
  - Evangelism
  - Prophecy
  - Teaching

12

Communication Charisms

- Evangelism: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's love – *by sharing the faith with others in a way that draws them to become disciples of Jesus and responsible members of his Church.*
- Prophecy: empowers a Christian to be a channel of divine truth and wisdom – *by communicating a word or call of God to individuals or a group through inspired words or actions.*
- Teaching: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's truth and wisdom – *enabling others to learn information and skills that help them reach their fullest spiritual and personal potential.*

13

Organisational Charisms

- Focus is upon the vision or structural needs of an organisation or group
  - Administration
  - Giving
  - Leadership
  - Service

14

Organisational Charisms

- Administration: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's wisdom - *by providing the planning and coordination needed to accomplish good things.*
- Leadership: empowers a Christian to be an agent of God's purposes—*sharing a compelling vision of a better future with others and by directing the overall efforts of a group as they work together to make the vision a reality.*
- Service: *empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's purposes—recognizing the gaps or unmet needs that prevent good things from happening, and by personally doing whatever it takes to bridge the gap or meet the need.*

15

Organisational Charisms

- Giving: empowers a Christian to be a cheerful channel of God's provision *by giving with exceptional generosity to those in need.*

16

Lifestyle Charisms

- Focus: Distinctive lifestyle and freedom for unusual ministry
  - Celibacy
  - Faith
  - Missionary
  - Voluntary poverty

17

Lifestyle Charisms

- Celibacy: empowers a Christian to be – *most fulfilled and spiritually fruitful by remaining unmarried and celibate for the sake of Christ.*
- Faith: empowers a Christian to be an effective agent of God's purposes - *through an unusual trust in the love, power, and provision of God and a remarkable freedom to act on this trust.*
- Missionary: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness to others - *effectively and joyfully using their charisms in a second culture.*
- Voluntary Poverty: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's loving presence - *by living a life of cheerful, voluntary simplicity or poverty in order to identify with Jesus and the poor.*

18

Healing Charisms

- Focus is upon being a channel of God's healing and restoration
  - Healing
  - Intercessory prayer

19

Healing Charisms

- Healing: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's love - *through whom God cures illness and restores health when healing is unlikely to occur quickly or to happen at all.*
- Intercessory Prayer: *empowers the intense prayer of a Christian for others to be the means* by which God's love and deliverance reaches those in need.

20

Charisms of Understanding

- Focus is upon understanding the ways of God and humanity
  - Discernment of spirits
  - Knowledge
  - Wisdom

21

Charisms of Understanding

- Knowledge: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's truth – *through diligent study and intellectual activity that enables us to better understand God, ourselves, and the universe.*
- Wisdom: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's goodness – *through remarkable insight that enables him or her to come up with creative solutions to specific problems and make good decisions.*
- Discernment of Spirits: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's wisdom - *accurately perceiving a divine or demonic presence in certain people, places or things.*

22

Creative Charisms

- Focus is upon creative activity that orders and beautifies
  - Craftsmanship
  - Music
  - Writing

23

Creative Charisms

- Craftsmanship: empowers a Christian to be an effective channel of God's goodness to others - *through artistic or creative work that beautifies and/or orders the physical world.*
- Music: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creative goodness to others – *through writing or performing music for the delight of others and the praise of God.*
- Writing: empowers a Christian to be a channel of God's creativity - *by using words to create works of truth or beauty that reflect the fullness of human experience and bring glory to God.*

24