

Mercy/Compassion

Description:

People with this gift identify with the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional pain or distress of others and are moved to action. They extend Christian love into the world.

Distinctives:

People with this gift:

- Focus upon alleviating the sources of pain or discomfort in suffering people
- Address the needs of the lonely and forgotten
- Express love, grace, and dignity to those facing hardships and crisis
- Serve in difficult or unsightly circumstances and do so cheerfully
- Concern themselves with individual or social issues that oppress people.

Traits:

- Empathetic
- Caring
- Responsive
- Kind
- Compassionate
- Sensitive
- Burden-bearing

Cautions:

- Need to be aware that rescuing people from their pain may be hindering God's work
- Need to guard against feeling "unappreciated", since some of the people helped will not show or express any appreciation
- Should guard against becoming defensive and angry about the sources of other's pain.

Biblical Examples:

Romans 12:8

Matthew 5:7

Mark 10:46-52

Luke 10:25-37

Ministry Suggestions:

Potter's House/Community Outreach Ministries

Care Giving Ministries

Stephen Ministry

Senior Adults in Need Team

Kid's Closet Volunteer