

ABILITY

"Pastor, how come some people seem to have more ability than others? Surely God has equipped us equally!" Yes, you are right, God does equip us equally but He does so according to the ministry He has called you to. God would never ask you to do something without first giving you the **ability** to achieve it. Who He calls He equips! Therefore, everything that is necessary for you to fulfil your God-given assignment is supplied beforehand. 1 Peter 4:11 states, ***"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."*** The word "ἰσχύος" translated "ability" is connected with two Greek words that mean 'to have' and 'to hold'. Therefore, Peter is implying that anyone doing God's work must do it in proportion to the **ability** that God has already bestowed upon him. Bare in mind, all ministry is performed with the inherent personal 'capability' that has been supplied through God's divine power, and this is unique to each individual.

What becomes apparent here is the fact that anyone called to minister in God's kingdom is already equipped to perform every assignment of God. When our "abilities" are used in everyday situations for true service to God, it gives an added dimension to the word 'purpose'. As a result, every one of us can experience fulfilment and joy in all matters of life. Do you know that God the Father has already placed within you the 'attitudes' that will inspire you to develop the right 'attributes' that will bring Him glory? Do you know that God the Father has placed within you the 'talents' that can be moulded into the right abilities that bring Him glory? And do you know that God the Father is constantly at work in you bringing about the fullness of both your intrinsic qualities and your personal abilities?

But always remember, you cannot do it in your own strength. You can do it only in His strength and supply. What's more, only God knows your true potential, and only God can help you achieve it. So don't rely in your own strength, learn to depend entirely on the **ability** (*inherent personal capability*) that God has supplied through the power that is at work in you. ***"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us"*** (Ephesians 3:20). Wake up every morning with the knowledge that God has already supplied the abilities necessary for you to make each day a success. Live in the realisation that you are capable of achieving great things because He has equipped you for greatness! Fully understand that every dream that is God-given, is given with total fulfilment in mind. Inside you right now, is the inherent power to overcome any adversity. Furthermore, God has also declared that He has given you the **ability** to obtain wealth (Deuteronomy 8:18). Our Heavenly Father has everything covered! So rejoice and be glad in every situation – and especially as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Amen!