

Dig Deeper @Home – Better Together
Complement to lesson on 02/06/22 – “Equipped Together”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What is the most meaningful gift you have ever received NOT on Christmas or a birthday?
2. If you had to pick one, what is your favorite body part?

MEMORIZE – Ephesians 4: 11-13

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

READ – Ephesians 4:1-16

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read these passages?
 - a. What sticks out to you?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
 - c. If you had to tweet, post, or share one of these verses, which one would you pick? Why? (Not into social media? Which verse would you print on a t-shirt?)
 - d. What is the passage revealing about God? About humanity?
In light of these, what might God be calling you to do?
2. Unity is mentioned twice in Ephesians 4:1-16. Why is unity such a big deal? What are we to be united in? (Hint: Verses 3-6) What does Jesus have to say about unity? (Check out John 17:16-26)
3. Who has Christ gifted? Just the elite? Only the “spiritual heavyweights?” Verse 7 says that “each one was given a gift.” The word used here for “each” is *hékastos*, which means each individual unit viewed distinctly, as opposed to “severally” (as a group). Why have we been given these spiritual gifts? (Hint: Verses 12-14)

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Discerning Spiritual Gifts

Sometimes it is easier to see gifts in other people than in yourself! If completing this Dig Deeper Guide as a group, encourage each other with where you see the giftedness in them. How do each of the different giftings work hand-in-hand to make us “Better Together?” If completing the guide on your own, make it a point to call out the gifts you see in fellow believers in the coming weeks.

Here is a summary of the “APEST” gifts listed in Ephesians 4 for your reference:

Apostle / Prophet / Evangelist / Shepherd / Teacher

Other lists of spiritual gifts can be found in Scripture! Check out Romans 12 or 1 Corinthians 12 and consider taking a spiritual gifts assessment together and discussing the results. A free assessment can be found here:

<https://spiritualgiftstest.com/>

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

We Are The Body of Christ - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WJL5Ccw3b8>

Fruit of the Spirit - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rezg4jYFoj0>

We Praise Thee, O God – Mennonite Hymnal #527

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the series:

Go from here, knowing that the one who can do infinitely more than all we can ask for imagine is not only with us, but His power is at work in our midst empowering us with gifts to equip us for the work of ministry. As you walk in this confidence, know that the God who sends us, empowers us!