

Dig Deeper @Home – “Presents from Jesus”

Complement to lesson on 12/15/24 – “His Power”

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

1. What is your favorite body part? Least favorite? Why? 🧠 🦷 🖐️ 🗨️ 🦶 🦷 🦶 🦶 🦶
2. What's the longest you've gone without electricity, and how did it feel to be "powerless"? ⚡

MEMORIZE – Ephesians 4:7

“However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ” (NLT)

READ – 1 Corinthians 12

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read?
 - b. Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared? (If so... why might that be?)
 - c. What in these verses is interesting? What is confusing?
 - d. What are the verses revealing about God? What are the verses saying about people?
2. “To **each** is given the manifestation of the Spirit...” (v7)
 - a. If you are a follower of Jesus, do you take seriously the reality that **you** *have* been gifted “for the common good?” How might embracing this reshape your actions and priorities?
 - b. Which of these gifts do you see in yourself? In others?
 - c. How might they be put to better use? How can we encourage each other in our gifting?
3. Who/what empowers the gifts? (v 6,11)
4. Re-read the gifts list in verses 8-11.
 - a. Do you think this is an exhaustive list? Why or why not?
 - b. Compare the list with verses 28-31. Something is different. What?
 - i. Does this affect your answer to 4a?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – The body needs all its members!

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 compares our physical bodies to the body of Christ. Just as each literal body part is needed for certain tasks, each person's spiritual gifts are needed for the church body to function fully as it is intended. Try these tasks without using key body parts:

- Attempt to build a small structure (like a tower or pyramid) using plastic cups... but no hands allowed! You can use elbows, feet, mouth... anything but your hands. How high can you build in 3 minutes?
- Race across the room, but only hop on one foot. If there are multiple people participating, see who can do it the fastest. How much faster could you go with two feet?
- Play a game of Pictionary, but only use your non-dominant hand or draw with the pen in your mouth. Can you even tell what you are trying to sketch?

Every body part (gift) is important and valuable to the work God wants to do in and through us!

SING

We Are The Body of Christ - <https://youtu.be/6bkWSFuF2Xg?si=OoUxd7uy1Nnpf47>

If We Are The Body - <https://youtu.be/Fouqn5Xg5-E?si=AgNf7ryJBwPXDDPr>

O Holy Night - <https://youtu.be/vjPljrO3ZI?si=ePzWTMVtPy2qTAF0>

Here I Am - <https://youtu.be/iyMZIXz4IME?si=10ImfGJfFRHYKsfE>

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.

Sending prayer based on the message:

Heavenly Father, thank You for sustaining *Your* people, by *Your* power, for *Your* glory. Help us to recognize and put to use the manifestations of Your Spirit that You have gifted each of us with: for the edification of the body, the proclamation of your name, and the common good.