

Dig Deeper @Home – “Presents from Jesus”

Complement to lesson on 12/29/24 – “His People (pt 2)”

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

1. What gift did you receive this Christmas that felt extra generous and special to you?
2. What gift did you give to someone else that you put a great deal of thought into before you gave it?

MEMORIZE – Ephesians 4:7

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

READ – Romans 12:3-8

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. Compare Romans 12:3-8 with 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 and Ephesians 4:7-16.
 - a. What do you notice?
 - b. What is consistent in all three texts regarding spiritual gifts?
 - c. What does this mean for you in your walk with Christ?
3. As you read over these three scriptures, which spiritual gifts stood out to you and which did you identify the most readily with from your own experience?
4. What do you think Paul means when he says we are to use our gifts "according to the measure of faith" (verse 3)?
5. How can we actively contribute to the building up of the church body, using our unique gifts?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – Unpacking Your Spiritual Gifts

If you are interested in unpacking gifts God is giving to you, prayerfully follow the following steps.

- **First Pray:** Ask God to reveal your gifts to you and be open to how God leads you.
- **Re-read the scriptures:** Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Ephesians 4:7-16
- **Ask others:** Ask people who know you well what spiritual gifts they see in you.
- **Begin to Serve right where you currently live, work and play:** Respond to needs and opportunities to engage both inside and outside the church
- **Look for fruit:** When you serve in your areas of gifting, you should expect evidence of God's presence and power.

SING

Yet not I But through Christ in me - https://youtu.be/L-apRYE_Zog

Blessed Be Your Name - <https://youtu.be/zG72BQrlriw>

Everlasting God - <https://youtu.be/YfxdxsV79pU>

God of Grace and God of Glory (Hymnal #434) - https://youtu.be/arvBskyd8_E

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:

Holy Spirit, help us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling this week, being ready with humility, to use and share the spiritual gifts you are entrusting us with to further your kingdom work in the world. Help us to remember there is one body, one Spirit, one God and Father of all. All this is for your glory. Amen.