

The Gift for Those Who Serve

This is Compassion

Romans 12: 6-8, 1 Peter 4:10

Sermon Discussion Guide for the week of August 21st & 24th, 2016

Main Point: Spiritual gifts are intended for Christians to use.

CONNECT -----

Do you have something you only use on special occasions? (Maybe dishes, or fancy clothes, or decorations) Why do you think some people have “special” items?

Why do you think so many people enjoy watching the Olympics or other sporting events?

Why do you think Olympic athletes seem to be more talented than most people?

LEARN -----

Have a volunteer read Romans 12: 4-8.

What is the emphasis in these verses?

If our church is like a body, what does that mean about different roles that people play within the church community?

Why do we need people who are gifted in specific ways in a local church?

Do you know other places in the Bible where spiritual gifts are listed?

Why do you think there are so many different types of people/gifts listed in these verses?

Why do you think God chooses not to give everyone the same spiritual gifts?

Do you think that God could bless a person with a particular skill or ability that is not listed in the Bible? Why or why not?

Break into groups of 3-4 people. Ask group members (especially those who know you best) to suggest an area where they think you might be gifted. Spend some time discussing each person in your group.

Regroup and share what you learned and discussed in your smaller groups. Did you learn anything that surprised you? Did others confirm your spiritual gifts?

Have a volunteer read 1 Peter 4:10

What is supposed to happen with the gifts God has given to us?

Peter seems to put a special emphasis on taking action (v. 10). How do you think you could use your spiritual gifts?

How would you describe a spiritual consumer in your own words?

How would you describe a spiritual contributor?

What is one thing that stops you from serving God fully?

SERVE -----

What are some practical ways to have a better attitude when you do things because you believe God wants you to do them?

How can you use your spiritual gift(s) this week?

What is one way I can show my unity with the local church body in the upcoming week?

PRAY -----

Pray that God would help us to understand ourselves better so that we can serve more effectively. Ask God to help us with having an attitude of joy and to help us to identify the reasons for negative attitudes, and to help us to forgive or seek forgiveness where necessary. Give thanks for specific people who have been faithful to God by serving Him and as a result have been helpful to you or to someone you know.