

The Gifts that Keep on Giving: Part 2

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- **The Gifts that Keep on Giving**
- This series is about Spiritual Gifts.
 - Each one of us has Spiritual Gifts from God.
 - These gifts, or abilities, are from God for us to do His work for His purposes.
 - So, your spiritual gifts help indicate your role in the Body of Christ.
 - Good News: God's design is for us to play to our strengths!
 - Albert Einstein: "Everybody is a Genius. But If You Judge a **Fish** by Its Ability to Climb a Tree, It Will Live Its Whole Life Believing that It is Stupid."
 - Early in my Christian life I did not feel like I fit in.
 - I do now! You can too. Just be honest about who you are.
 - Saul's Armor. **1 Samuel 17: 21-40**
- Let's look at some of the lists of the Gifts of the Spirit and see what they are.
 - These are not exhaustive lists, just good common examples.
 - **Romans 12:3-8**
 - Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Encouraging, Giving, Leadership, Mercy...
 - And perhaps "letting." Someone has to do that.
 - **1 Corinthians 12:7-11**
 - Wisdom, Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Miraculous Powers, Prophecy, Distinguishing between Spirits, Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues
 - **1 Corinthians 12:27-31**
 - Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Miracles, Healing, Helps, Administration, Tongues
 - (interesting that tongues is not in Romans, just 1 Corinthians)
 - **Ephesians 4:11-13** – leadership list
 - Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers
 - What is the purpose of the leaders? (v12-13)
 - So, what is the purpose of everyone else?
- You may not see yourself in these lists.
 - That's ok. This isn't an exhaustive list, though "helps" is pretty broad. ☺
 - Be who you are and let it happen as you stay faithful to God.
 - It's good to eagerly desire gifts (1 Cor 12:31)
 - But remember, God is the one who chooses who gets what gift.
- How often did you see the theme of the unity of the Body of Christ in these verses?
 - Too often our differences along these lines cause division.
 - That is not God's plan.
 - God's plan is for different people to stand together for Jesus.
 - Are you willing to do that? To stand with me, with us, for Jesus?
 - **John 17:20-23**
 - Let's love one another out of reverence for Christ.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!