



DISCUSSION GUIDE

GIFTED: Discovering Your SHAPE for ministry

GETTING STARTED

What is one thing you are thankful for this week and what is one thing we can pray for you this week?

What is one unique talent or ability, or gifts you have (whether you think it is important or not)?

How did you find out what you are gifted at? (e.g. others affirmed them, you took an assessment, through trial and error, etc...)

QUICK REACTIONS FROM THE MESSAGE

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

What idea, context, Scripture do you think could have been expanded on, or included in the message?

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Ephesians 4:11-16]

(Yes, these questions can seem silly, however, good discussion and interpretation of the Bible begins with having a proper understanding of the basic facts; who, what, when, and where in the text.) Work through this quickly, the answers are fairly obvious.

With what kind of people does God fill the church? (4:11)

What is the purpose of spiritual gifts? (4:12-13)

What results from gifted believers equipping the church? (4:14-16)

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [Romans 12:6-8]

What are the gifts of God? (12:6-8)

How should each person use his or her gifts? (12:6-8)

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE [1 Corinthians 12:1-11]

Why did Paul give the Corinthians advice about spiritual gifts? (12:1)

What was the condition of the Corinthians when they were pagans? (12:2)

Why can someone speaking by the Spirit of God not say, "Jesus be cursed"? (12:3)

What is the only way a person can say, "Jesus is Lord"? (12:3)

What common element exists in the diversity of gifts, service, and working? (12:4-6)

Who works through the various gifts Christians have? (12:4-6)

Who is given a spiritual gifts of the Spirit? (12:7)

What purpose are the gifts distributed? (12:7)
What spiritual gifts did Paul describe? (12:8-10)
Who determines how the gifts are distributed? (12:11)

QUESTIONS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TEXT

In each of the three texts we have read about spiritual gifts, ask yourselves—

What do they all share in common? In what ways are they different?

After reading these texts, how would you describe a “church” should be organized, led and determine if it is “successful”?

In what way may God be asking or prompting you to serve out of your gifts?

APPLY THE PASSAGE

What do we learn about God and about ourselves in this passage?
How can we pray for each other?