

Here are some talking points to start using to get your group talking to each other and to start generating meaningful conversations. You want others to do most of the talking.

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group. Ask a question to get your group thinking. Which part of the message was most impactful to you and why?

Start Sharing & Talking About the message. NOTE: Pastor may not cover all points in all services.

Setting/Open: Despite all the abuse, misuse, misinterpretation & misrepresentation, spiritual gifts should not scare us. By God's grace He has given each of us (everyone) spiritual gifts that we operate in by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Zech 4:6**

1. What is the progression of the life of a Christian that Pastor Ed laid out from **Eph 2:8-10**?
A. Life – conviction – salvation - then a relationship with Jesus. What comes with salvation & for what purpose? **A.** Spiritual gifts by which we serve the Lord as His hands & feet.
2. Beyond salvation, for what other reason were we called? **A.** To bless God by our service. Service is a lifetime of thanksgiving to God. We are not to stagnate but to serve. We are not to be mere spectators like people at a football game or movie theatre.
3. Beyond our Savior, what else is Jesus to us? **A.** Our model, Teacher and the Head of the church. He's our Good Shepherd. **Mark 10:45**
4. Review verses **4:1-6**. We walk worthy of our calling. There is both unity and diversity.
5. **4:7** Why different gifts for different people? **A.** Different gifts because in the church there are different people, different roles, different functions, thus, different giftings. We don't lose our individuality or uniqueness, but we operate and serve within the body of Christ.
6. **4:8-10** Paul quotes **Psalms 68:18** with a twist: In the OT the conquering King received gifts; in the NT the Conqueror Jesus gives gifts to men. When did Jesus give the gifts? **A.** Before He entered heaven.
7. Explanation on **Hades**, the place of the dead: Before Jesus came, Hell was divided into two sides (**Luke 16**) – A good side (Abraham's bosom) where believers went to wait until Jesus died for their sins, and the other side (place of torment) where unbelievers are held until the end of the Millennial Kingdom and the Great White Throne Judgement. Hell is a reality.
8. Ed discussed two points of disagreement regarding the return of Jesus and how we handle the Bible. Discuss that we must accept uncomfortable truths such as eternal punishment for unbelievers. We are eternal beings and our decisions have eternal rewards or consequences.
9. **John 3:14-18 V16** is the foundation of God's love & salvation. Discuss the six parts for salvation: 1) **The Source** – God initiates salvation; 2) **The Seriousness** – God was moved to save because He loves; 3) **The Object** – God loves the world, believer and unbeliever; 4) **The Demonstration** – God's love moved Him to send; 5) **The Offer** – God's love goes to all so all can be saved; 6) **The Requirement** – Salvation is given, but it must be received.

Start Praying & Start Doing. Please remember to fill out the LIFEgroup meeting assessment form after your meeting. Here is the link: <https://subsplash.com/u/-3VJ3ZF/forms/d/439cdb6e-6d23-4b0a-9aeb-05199f86a9f2>

LIFEgroups

Talk it over | week 4

discussion | study 14920

God Gives His Kids Gifts

Eph 4:7-10

Pastor Ed Taylor