

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: Every person is uniquely gifted, and tied to the body of Christ, interdependent on each other. We all have at least one of seven supernatural (charisma – a free gift) gifts. God combines our talents to the gifts by the power of the Holy Spirit.

1. In three books of the NT what differences do we see in the gifts? **A. Romans 12** lists the motivational gifts; **1 Cor 12** lists the manifestations; **Eph 4** lists the ministries.
2. What are gifted people to the Church? **A.** Jesus' gifts to His bride, the Church.
3. What is the purpose of Jesus giving gifts/roles? **A.** It is for the equipping the saints for the work of ministry to build up the Body of Christ.
4. What does the proper exercise of gifts provide the Church? **A.** Protection from false teachers and false teaching.
5. What is an unbiblical mentality that we see in the Church today? **A.** "We pay the pastors and they will do all the work." And, "It's not my joy." It's **our** job. We all have roles and responsibilities within the church body.
6. What is an important thing for believers to do as we progress in our Christian walk? **A.** We are to grow-up. Stop being babes in the Lord. What is the danger of not growing in the Lord? **A.** We can be susceptible to being deceived by cults or false teachers.
7. **V4:11** The gifts: 1. **Apostles** – a messenger or one sent (by God) on a mission. They were the original pillars of the church. Qualifications: to have seen the risen Christ & have authenticating signs including miracles. There are no apostles today, thou some falsely claim the title. **2Cor 11:13** Today, missionaries are the sent ones.
Prophets - proclaimers of God's Word. One who speaks forth. **1Cor 14:3** In the OT a prophet spoke for God and gave predictions. Now that we have God's Word a prophet speaks forth that Word. It's Foretelling v Forthtelling. The exercise of this gift builds people up; it should not be used to control people. **Evangelists** - One who declares the good news. See Philip in Acts 21. In the early church it was a special role for someone with a special anointing. Today everyone should do the work of an evangelist. **Pastors/Teachers** – a combined role used within the local church. Pastors lead and shepherd the flock. **Acts 20:28** Teachers instruct and feed the flock. Not all teachers are pastors, but all pastors are teachers.
8. Jon Courson descriptions: Apostles = governing; Prophets = Guiding; Evangelists = Gathering; Pastor/Teacher = Guarding.

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 5

discussion | study 14921

Gifted People for the Church's Growth

Eph 4:11

Pastor Ed Taylor