

Sermon Discussion Questions

Gifts of Service, Helping, Hospitality – Matt Slocum
Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

AGENDA

- Allow people to arrive, talk, and snack – 15 min
- Thank everyone for coming. Open in prayer – 30 sec
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Icebreaker question – 10-20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min
- Prayer – 20-30 min

INTRODUCTION

Today we start a new sermon series on the Gifts of the Spirit. In this series we will take a look at the Gifts of the Spirit and just what they mean to us as we live out our lives as followers of Christ. Let's all approach this series with openness and a desire to see if just maybe there's something new the Holy Spirit wants to teach us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week we were asked to look and see if there were any areas of our life that the Spirit was not filling? Did any area come to mind? Are you able to share with the group?
2. What was something new or different you learned from Matt's message this week?
3. We often ask the question, "What are my spiritual gifts?" Maybe a better question is, "What is the Spirit enabling me to do?"

Does changing the question we ask help us to actually move forward into expressing ourselves to build up the body of Christ and to love others? Do you think it provides more freedom than simply trying to follow a checklist?
4. We often look at "spiritual gifts" as some sort of superpower that has been bestowed upon someone. How might this view of "spiritual gifts" cause us to miss the mark and possibly think a gift we have been given is somehow less than or not as important as a gift someone else has been given? Does this then become a comparison of who has the greater gift?
5. Through this series, as we seek the Gifts of the Spirit, we are challenged to explore three areas:
 - 1) How to become more sensitive to the Holy Spirit in our life?
 - 2) How to help others cultivate a life sensitive to the Holy Spirit in their life?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. What is your favorite thing to do on a cold, snowy day?
2. When was the last time you built a snowman? Why haven't you built one since then?
3. What is the thing you did most recently that caused you to smile and have fun?

3) To create a space for the Holy Spirit to work among us?

What are some practical ways we can explore these three areas?

APPLICATION

As we explore this series on the Spiritual Gifts, try to leave what you already know at the door and be open to the idea that there might be more the Holy Spirit wants to teach you about this topic. Is there any area where you know you might be resistant to change or a new thought? Write those down.

PRAYER (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Pray that God will open our hearts and minds to receive all he has for us and that through this study we will grow in our love for Him and our love for others. Pray that we will be more sensitive to the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives and that we will work to create a space where the Holy Spirit is free to work.

COMING UP

To join a small group, sign up at vckceast.com or at one of the weekend services. Study materials are available to download on the church website (<https://vckceast.com>) or on the Facebook page.

All-In Weekends – 9 and 16 January

All-Church Small Group Sermon Series – 9 Jan – 27 February

Youth Events

28-30 Jan – High School Winter Camp

FINAL THOUGHT

The Christians movement is NOT about exerting power but extending welcome.