

Take Away – Soul Trek: Don't Overthink It

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Date: 10-24-21



With your group...

Answer each of the following questions prompted by the text and today's sermon.

1. Why is it important that people take on responsibilities in ministry at Christ Greenfield?
2. How is it possible to take on too much responsibility in the church? What are the consequences to both the individual and others?
3. What are your spiritual gifts? (If you haven't taken a spiritual gifts assessment, you can do that at: <https://www.freeshapetest.com/>)
4. React to: "Spiritual gifts are God's power for you to accomplish what He has given you to do. The temptation at the R stage is to lean into what God has given you to do and neglect to rely on the fact that it's His power to do it."
5. React to: "This is the way to thrive in the R stage. You go out in your baptized identity, accepted by your Lord Jesus. You do the work He has prepared in advance for you to do. You get to smile back at the God who smiles at you while you do the work."
6. Which of these two "next steps" are you currently at? Discuss with your group.
 - a) "For all of you that are trying to earn God's love with your acts of service. Stop it. Your value and worth is not in what you do for the Lord. Your value and worth is in who God claimed you to be, that is, a child of God."
 - b) "For those of you that know you are a child of God and are growing in your faith and are thinking about serving don't overthink it...just do it! Dabble in some serving opportunities. Try some things out. Test some areas by serving in some ministries you are interested in."
7. React to: "Imagine if followers of Jesus served more faithfully. Fewer servants would burn out. More followers of Jesus would grow in faith. More ministries would meet the needs of others. And, most importantly, as a result more people that do not know Jesus would receive Jesus' love."

With your kids...

8. With an adult who knows you well, discuss what they think your spiritual gifts are.
9. Now that you know what your spiritual gifts are, discuss some ways you can use them at home and at school.
10. Why is it important to use the gifts that God has given to us?

Diving Deeper...

For a deeper dive into God's Word, let's look more closely at 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

11. What does 12:1 suggest about this topic? In other words, why did Paul bring it up?
12. How many times in verses 1-11 is the Holy Spirit mentioned? What do you think is the point of that repetition?
13. Based on repetition alone, what are the other key words or phrases in verses 1-11? What does that tell you about Paul's main point or concern?
14. How were we led before we trusted Christ (1 Corinthians 12:2)? How are we led now that we are in Christ (Romans 8:4)?
15. Who is the center of our acts of service in the church (1 Corinthians 12:5; Ephesians 4:7, 11)?
16. Who empowers us to do what we do as Christians (1 Corinthians 12:6, 11; Romans 12:6; John 15:5)?
17. Why have we been given these gifts (1 Corinthians 12:7)?
18. What should the result of our gifts be (Ephesians 4:12)?

On your own...

For your individual study this week, read 2 Timothy 3:10-17.

19. We tend to think about gifts as things we receive for our personal enjoyment, but Paul says the Spiritual Gifts are given for "the common good." How does this help us better understand the purpose and proper use of these spiritual gifts?
20. The Holy Spirit's desire in gifting Christians is to empower them to serve one another for the common good (v7), but ultimately to do so in a way that draws attention to the reality that "Jesus is Lord" (v3). How does this also help us better understand the purpose and proper use of these spiritual gifts?
21. What would an improper use of the Spiritual Gifts look like, and how should we respond when we see someone misuse or abuse the Spiritual Gifts?
22. Why is it important to know that every Christian is Spiritually Gifted, but also that not every Christian has all or the same Spiritual gifts? How should this shape the way you view and live in community?