

:: summary

People have many choices when it comes to becoming part of a church family. For people new to our fellowship, we are creating a three-part experience we call Open Door where newcomers learn about the mission, vision, and values of GraceWay and are encouraged to deeply engage with our church family as part of their faith journey and relationship with Jesus. Pastor Mike and the Elders want you to experience Open Door and intentionally make the same commitments as new people who will be joining us.

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

This week's Open Door message centers on Family Fit – How you do your part to make the GraceWay family fit (spiritually) and, how you fit (relationally) into the GraceWay family.

:: discussion

HOW YOU MAKE THE FAMILY FIT

Read Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:4-8

Make it personal – what affirmations/encouragements does God give *you* in these texts?

You serve and build up the body of Christ using your very own unique S.H.A.P.E.

Spiritual gifting Heart Abilities Personality Experiences

How does the combination of these five aspects enhance your ability to serve well and with joy?

Spiritual gifts are given by God through the Holy Spirit. They equip us to live out the call of God in our lives. They are different from natural ability or talent and it is God who chooses each gift for us. Key texts for spiritual gifts are Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 27-28 and Ephesians 4:11-13.

For each member of the group, share how God has gifted you for works of service (Eph. 4:12).

Note: You are encouraged to take the Spiritual Gifts Test and to discover or perhaps confirm how God has gifted you for ministry within the body. – Click [HERE](#) to download a copy.

In regard to your personality, would you say you are more ... *(circle one in each pair)*

Task Oriented or People Oriented; Unstructured or Structured; Extraverted or Introverted

How do your three choices provide insight into the ways you are best at building up the body of Christ?

WHERE YOU FIT IN THE FAMILY

The fullness of the Christian life is lived out by belonging to a community of people who meet regularly to love, encourage and pray for one another, grow in Christ and occasionally serve together. At GraceWay, Life Groups are the primary way we encourage everyone to actively engage in sharing life together.

What are the most important qualities of a group that enhance genuine Christian community?

Every person makes a difference in a group. What are the ways you strengthen others?

GraceWay identifies 12 values that shape everything we do as a church. Read values 5-8:

Shared Life - We are one family called to live the adventure of faith in an authentic community of friendship, caring, encouragement and spiritual growth.

Serving - As a faith community, we are our best when every believer exercises his or her talents and skills for the common good.

Overflowing Generosity - God has given us everything. It is our joy to be generous to others.

Spiritual Impact - We are called to make a daily difference by expressing God's love throughout our city and world.

Are these values you treasure as well? Why or why not?

Read Ephesians 4:11-16

What are the spiritual outcomes that result when each person shares his or her gifts and actively participates in community?

The Open Door invitation to you, whether you have been at GraceWay for decades or days, is to take time to prayerfully reflect on all that is being said and consider coming to the spiritual decision point where you can make this declaration:

**I choose this church because I believe in its mission, vision, and values
and this is what I want to be about as a disciple of Jesus.**



For more details and messages in this series, visit: [GraceWay Messages](#)

To see notes from Sunday's message, please click: [Message Notes](#).