

## Small Group Guide: Understanding Spiritual Gifts and Church Order

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. Spiritual gifts should be used for the edification of the church, not personal glory.
2. God's Word and understanding it should be our priority over seeking miraculous displays.
3. Love (agape) is the most excellent way and should accompany all spiritual gifts.
4. Church gatherings should be orderly and focused on worshiping God and learning His Word.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What stood out to you most from the sermon? Why?
2. The pastor emphasized the importance of understanding God's Word. How can we grow in our understanding of Scripture? What challenges do you face in studying the Bible?
3. How do you view the role of spiritual gifts in the church today? Have you ever witnessed or experienced the use of spiritual gifts in a church setting?
4. The sermon mentioned that some people "just want to live in ignorance" regarding spiritual matters. Why do you think this happens, and how can we encourage a desire for spiritual growth in ourselves and others?
5. How can we ensure that our use of spiritual gifts or participation in church is motivated by love rather than a desire for attention or status?
6. The pastor emphasized that church gatherings should be "done decently and in order." What does this look like practically in our church? How can we maintain order while still being open to the Holy Spirit's work?

### **Practical Applications:**

1. Commit to a regular Bible study habit this week. Share with the group next time how it impacted your spiritual life.
2. Reflect on your motivations for serving or participating in church activities. Are they driven by love for God and others or by a desire for recognition?
3. If you believe you have a spiritual gift, consider how you can use it to build up the church in an orderly and loving manner.
4. Practice extending grace to others who may not fully understand or properly use their spiritual gifts. Look for opportunities to gently guide them using Scripture.
5. Spend time in prayer asking God to help you desire His Word and the working of the Holy Spirit in your life more deeply.