

Discussion Guide

questions to help start or continue conversations about faith

Discussion Guides accompany the weekly message.

"Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:4-5)

BUILD for Jesus AND **Built** for Jesus. Jesus gives you purpose. Jesus said, "I will build My Church," and He has intentionally given you gifts of the Holy Spirit to **BUILD** His Kingdom. Belief in Jesus and belonging to Jesus leads to a life of purpose and service to Christ no matter a person's vocation or life circumstances.

"You can't stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes." —Winnie the Pooh

When is the last time you did something outside of your comfort zone? What was it? How did you feel afterward? What did you learn about yourself?

Observation (obs) - look at the text

Interpretation (int) - Understand what it means

Application (app) - Apply the Word of God to life

Read Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; & 1 Peter 4:10-11

- What are the gifts of the Spirit?
- Why does the Holy Spirit give various gifts to those who belong to Jesus?
- Who determines the gifts of the Spirit you will receive?
- What are we instructed to do with the gifts the Holy Spirit gives each of us?

Read Ephesians 2:10

- When did God prepare the good works He has planned for you to do?

- The NLT and the NIV translate this verse that we are to “do the good works of God.” The NASB and the AMP use the phrase, “walk in them.” Which translation is a better fit for how God made you?
- Regardless of the translation you read from, what is our responsibility in responding to the good works God has prepared for us?

Personal Reflection

Do you desire to know and increase your understanding of the gifts the Holy Spirit has given you? Do you desire to use your gifts and be used by God in your gifts?

If so, then during your quiet times, seek the Lord and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and counsel you about the gifts He has given you. Tell the Lord, “Here I am Lord. I am available. Use me for Your Kingdom.”

If you are a doer, go and do the good works the Lord has prepared in advance for you. Perhaps there is a ministry at WRCC you have been thinking about getting involved in. Get involved! Perhaps there are people in your life the Lord has been leading you to encourage. Go encourage them. Perhaps you have the desire to lead a small group. Talk to your small group leader about this and make a plan together to lead. Perhaps there is a need that you can meet through serving, then meet the need. Perhaps someone lacks faith and God has given you faith to share with them, then share your faith.

If you prefer to step into the good works the Lord has for you, when you say to the Lord, “here I am,” He will take you at your word. There will be times when you step into the good works without knowing it. And there will be times when the Lord puts you in a circumstance where He wants to use you and His gifts in you. Be intentional and pay attention to what the Lord is doing in your life and step into the good works He has for you.

The best way to learn about the gifts of the Spirit the Holy Spirit has given you is to lean into them and practice them. Do not be afraid. The Lord is with you. You might be uncomfortable. That is ok. No one is good at something they have never done before. But God is able, and if you make yourself available to Him, He will work through you.