

Builders Meeting Cornerstone Church

February 17, 2019



“I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.” -Jesus

Jesus is in the business of building his church. One of the most exciting things about following him, is that he invites us to build alongside him as a co-laborer.

1 Corinthians 3:9 For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.

Wise and Foolish Builders

We are the building God is making, it's not a place, or a space or a venue, it's people! As we allow God to shape and form us, he calls us to co-labor with him to form, and shape and build-up others around us.



Luke 6:46-49

“Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not do what I say? [47] As for everyone who **comes to me** and **hears my words** and **puts them into practice**, I will show you what they are like. [48] They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. [49] But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.”

Every person on the planet is building toward something.

There is some overarching goal and target that causes us to get up in the morning. We are all builders.

Jesus shows us in this simple passage that there are really only two categories of people.

1. Those who build on a rock and base their whole lives off of the blueprint seen and experienced through Jesus
2. Those who do life on their own terms and rule their lives according to how they see fit.

Keys to *building* a faithful & fruitful life:

Comes to me – intimacy, abiding, communion, devotion

Hears my words – humility, listening, discerning, submission

Puts them into practice – embodying, expressing, obeying

Can't Hear God?

- **Read** the Bible as it's living and active, God-breathed
 - **Remember** the countless times he's communicating before
 - **Rejoice** in God's goodness and grace!
 - **Rest** in his presence and provision
 - **Repent** in order to renew your mind and come into alignment with God.
 - **Respond** to what he's saying now or to what you already know
 - **Run** the race he's called YOU to run.
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GROUP DISCUSSION TIME



If you look at your life like a movie or a play, what would the theme of the story be?

What are some of the foundations you have built your life on up until now?

What do you think are some of the foundations Jesus refers to when he talks about building on the rock?

How is my house doing?

On a scale of 1-10, 1 being poor, and 10 being excellent, rate how things are going in these areas.

As you look at each area, know that it will never be realistic to expect yourself to be a 10 in every category. This is merely a way to help you identify blind spots and problem areas that may need a little more attention if you find that you are frequently falling below a 5 in these areas.

Relationships at home-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Time Management-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Personal health disciplines-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Consistent time in the word-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Consistent time in prayer-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Follow-through with goals and dreams----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Appropriate rhythms of rest-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Work/Vocation fulfillment-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Work Ethic-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Positive outlook on life-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Community and friendship-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Generosity with time and money-----1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Living with financial margin, and savings--1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Serving or volunteering in the community-1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



What Kind of **CULTURE** and **PEOPLE** Do We Want to BUILD?

1. Devoted to Jesus & Discipleship

Read together the story of the 10 virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish and five were wise. [3] The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. [4] The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. [5] The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. [6] “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ [7] “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ [9] “ ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ [10] “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. [11] “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’ [12] “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ [13] “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

GROUP DISCUSSION TIME



What do you think Jesus was trying to communicate to his disciples through this parable?

Why did only some of the women have the oil, but not all?

What role does our devotional life play in the bigger picture of life?

Many if not most of our problems are created by us! So often we look for love everywhere else besides Jesus. We reach and pull and clamor of other stuff instead of living in the fullness that flows from Jesus. The Bible calls this substitute an *idol*. Idols create a mess.

This is why the call of the kingdom is one of 'come out'. 'Come and die'. 'Sell everything.' 'Forsake all'. This is a simple life of devotion to Jesus.

IF, IN THE
END, YOU
HAVE NOT
CHOSEN JESUS
CHRIST IT
WILL NOT
MATTER WHAT
YOU HAVE
CHOSEN.
NEAL A MAXWELL

The *ONE* thing that matters most (Luke 10:38-42) above EVERYTHING else is living a lifestyle postured at the feet of Jesus abiding, adoring and obeying his voice. Idols make life confusing, convoluted, and chaotic. TRUE **Devotion** to Jesus always flows in to saying an unequivocal YES to **discipleship!**

All great things in life require **devotion**. A willingness to press through the threshold of convenience, comfort and leaving our compromise behind!

Matthew 4:17

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Repent...the entrance into the kingdom! Changing our minds, acknowledging that God's ways are right, that God's will is good, pleasing and perfect. To acknowledge that Jesus is the **King** of the **kingdom**, and we are called to give **full allegiance to him alone!** The story is about HIM! Jesus is the bearer/bringer of God's redemptive/reconciling purposes and THE embodiment of God's vision for human flourishing, perfectly revealing God's IMAGE to the world and revealing God's INTENTION for the world.

Matthew 4:18-22

[18] As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. [19] "**Come, follow me,**" Jesus said, "**and I will send you out to fish for people.**" [20] At once they left their nets and followed him. [21] Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. **Jesus called them,** [22] and immediately they left the boat and their father and **followed him.**

They (a communal calling from the beginning) **left everything** (a costly calling), **IMMEDIATELY** (demands a response) to **follow** Jesus (yielding to his leadership). The

transformation happens as we **follow** Jesus and he **forms** us into **fishers** of humanity **TOGETHER** (thus, *mission* is NEVER separated from *discipleship*)!

The discipleship journey has an **upward** dimension (worshiping & abiding in Jesus), **inward** dimension (growing in a Jesus-community with others) and **outward** dimension (showing and sharing Jesus). **Jesus is at the center of it all.**

Matthew 7:21-23

[21] "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. [22] Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' [23] Then I will tell them plainly, '*I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!*'

Disciples are those who through intimate knowledge of Jesus (via relationship) learn to **hear and obey his voice, period**. The **goal of discipleship** is not just **cognitive** (knowledge and content) but **communion** with and **obedience** to Jesus (practices and habits). Disciples seek to embody and practice the way of Jesus together, in community.

Learning to live out our God-ordained destiny which is to rule and subdue, to be fruitful and multiply, to be a kingdom of priests is HARD WORK (Genesis 1:26-28; Revelation 1:6-7; 5:9-10; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21)!

Therefore, we need **FELLOWSHIP** in our **FOLLOWER-SHIP** of Jesus. Jesus models for us the priestly, prophetic and royal calling that God has intended for all of his **disciples**. **Jesus is PERFECT THEOLOGY!** He's the second Adam who shows us how to live a life that ushers in heaven to earth.

So, who are you doing life with? Are you pursuing apprenticeship to Jesus with others, in the context of community?

Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

- A life infused with and informed by the ways, words and works of Jesus as revealed in the Scriptures and empowered by the Spirit.
- A shared, participatory life moving towards a vision of the kingdom of God and the embodiment/expression of his righteousness (the life God requires see Matthew 5-7, John 13:34-35, Romans 12:9-21, Colossians 3:5-17, 2 Cor. 5:14-21)
- A life overflowing with gratitude & generosity...taken, blessed, broken and given!
- A life joyfully expectant and humbly dependent upon the provision and power of God for all things.

How often did they **gather** and **scatter**?

Acts 5:42

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

Everyday! They had a **gather** and **scatter** rhythm that formed them as disciples and fueled their common mission to be witnesses of Jesus in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Their fellowship led to favor with people and set the stage for proclaiming the gospel!

Acts 2:42-47 • **Paradigm for Church**

[42] All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. [43] A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. [44] And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. [45] They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. [46] They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity- [47] all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

We are **DEVOTED** to the ways, words and work of Jesus. The Bible which contains the revelation of the apostolic gospel serves as the foundation of our community. The written word reveals the Living Word and we know that his words are Spirit and Life! We seek to live in obedience to every word that proceeds from God.

We are a fellowship totally **DEVOTED** to the common end of Jesus being exalted in every nation. Giving ourselves fully to his redemptive and reconciling work. We are a **fellowship** of royal sons and daughters who are ambassadors of God's kingdom mission in the world.

We believe that practicing the ways of Jesus means wholehearted engagement in the seven cultural streams (business, government, media, arts and entertainment, education, the family and religious institutions) re-presenting humanity to the world's one true and rightful King Jesus.

As a chosen, royal, holy and priestly people we purposefully mediate the goodness, glory and healing presence of the Spirit every place we inhabit. Seeking to live lives that manifest the wisdom and winsome reality of a people who know and follow the Way of Jesus together.



We are a called out community of **disciples**; men and women who give themselves fully to do good work in their families, neighborhoods, workplaces and world as fellow **servant-missionaries** of Jesus.

Central to this good work is the conviction that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever! He wants to **heal** bodies, emotions, relationships, the *whole person* and all of creation!

We are **DEVOTED** to family. The breaking of bread is the context in and through which the kingdom of God breaks in to our homes our neighborhoods, our cities and our world. The *meal* (in particular the Lord's Supper) **tethers** our community to the sacrificial, self-emptying and cross-shaped love of Jesus.

In Christ we meet the hospitality of the Father who welcomes us through the adoption of the Spirit and calls us son and daughter. We find the grace to belong, become and believe the truth of his love until our every act and attitude are transformed and infused with the very life of God.

The breaking of bread also pushes us into a new realm and reality economically, socially, and politically. To break bread with sinners and saints, young and old, men and women, boys and girls is more than a theological statement. It is a foretaste of the age to come. We are people who live a "Eucharistic Economy" being are chosen, taken, blessed, broken and given to those around us!

And then finally, we are **DEVOTED** to become a people of prayer. So much is implicit in this one word. We are a people who are humbly reliant upon God for everything. The people who know that God in Christ has made every spiritual blessing available to us. The people who lean in to our greatest privilege by boldly approaching God's presence and throne of grace and mercy through the access made available to us by the torn body and spilled blood of Jesus. The place where all that we need and the source of all our deepest longings find satisfaction. We are people of the **PRESENCE!**

We are a people who seek to live out a Spirit-saturated lifestyle. Our words are different, our thoughts are different and our entire existence is different because of **PRAYER**.

The one word that ties all of these values and foundational realities of what we are after at Cornerstone Church is the word **DEVOTED**. We are people seeking to live in light of the future, NOW, fully aware that there are some things reserved for the time when God's kingdom is fully realized/consummated. Therefore, this calls for perseverance and patiently pressing in until we see the face of the One we spend our lives pursuing together.

We are **DEVOTED** because these things do not happen overnight. The majority of us have spent our lives living out of the old creation playing by the old rules and taking our cues from the first Adam. But we are totally **DEVOTED** to living out the reality that the second Adam, Jesus has made available. So we are **DEVOTED**, we're not halfhearted we're not fair-weather fans. NO! We want to reciprocate the resolve and undeterred devotion revealed through Jesus' saving ministry by passionately pursuing all that he has made available to us.

We are **DEVOTED** to becoming a peculiar, salty and light emanating community that draws humanity to Christ's saving work and healing presence. Seeking to offer the world around us an entirely new and beautiful way to be human rightly oriented around Jesus, aligned with God's heart and who give full allegiance to Jesus our King and his kingdom coming on earth as it is in heaven.

We are people that have a rhythm of life arranged around intentional and purposeful times with other followers of Jesus. We gather (temple) and scatter (homes) on a weekly basis. Sundays matter, when all of God's people come together and re-member (the BODY of Christ) all that God has done, is doing and will do through Christ and the people who bear his name.

However, we know also that the real work of life in the kingdom and growth in our apprenticeship to Jesus is played out in the everyday stuff of life so we are **DEVOTED** to meeting in homes, coffee shops, work rooms and wherever we are able to practice the ways, words and work of Jesus, together.

Mark 3:13–15

He went up the mountain and **called** to him those whom he **wanted**, and they **came** to him. And he **appointed** twelve, whom he also **named** apostles, to be with him, and to be sent out to **proclaim the message**, and to have authority to *cast out demons*.

Our Mission is to know Jesus. (we are wanted by him, and are called to be with him and then sent on his behalf with authority)

Union with CHRIST is THE MISSION of the believer's life...making disciples is the **CO-Mission** WITH CHRIST, in community and in the world...the CO-mission flows from knowing/communing/becoming one with Jesus...

Matthew 28:18–20

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Our **Co-Mission** is to help others become disciples who love, follow and obey Jesus. (we are appointed, sent out, and have authority)

- Disciple Maker's Role: To make disciples of Jesus by pursuing, encouraging, teaching and coaching a person in his or her spiritual journey.
- Disciple's Role: To be a faithful disciple by learning and growing in obedience to the teachings of Jesus.

We are to **BAPTIZE the NATIONS** in the name of the *Father, Son* and the *Holy Spirit*...

Connect to **FAMILY** (in the name of the Father) • **UP**

- We are adopted by God and born again into the kingdom.
- We have a new identity, nature and purpose
- We are brothers and sisters in a spiritual family.

Connect to **SERVICE** (in the name of the Son) • **IN**

- The greatest among you is the one who serves.
- One anothering (47 explicit one another passages!)...AGAPE lifestyle in our families/friendships/church/communities
- Every member of the family is uniquely called, gifted, equipped and placed for a purpose.
- We gladly submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Connect to **MISSION** (in the name of the Spirit) • **OUT**

- The Spirit is the Sender and Sustaining Source for living a missionary lifestyle.
- The Spirit is the power for witness and re-presentation of Christ in both word and deed.
- The Spirit goes before us, prepares hearts, convicts of sin and highlights people of peace.
- The Spirit is the conduit/carrier of every spiritual blessing in Christ to us, and through us to the world.
- The Spirit gives gifts and graces as He sees fit to build up the family of God and to enlarge the family of God.

“To be the church is to be a learning community that seeks together in faith to know Jesus (communion), to grow together in love for Jesus (community) and to align our lives, mission and way of being in the world to the in-breaking of the reign of Christ (co-mission).” - GORDON T. SMITH

2. Discovering *Purpose* • Developing *Potential*

Offering the entirety of our lives unto Jesus, maximizing them for his purposes and glory

Read together the parable of the Talents

Matthew 25:14-30

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. [15] To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. [16] The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. [17] So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. [18] But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. [19] “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. [20] The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ [21] “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ [22] “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ [23] “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ [24] “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he

said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. [25] So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' [26] "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? [27] Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. [28] " "So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. [29] For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. [30] And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



GROUP DISCUSSION TIME

What do you think Jesus was trying to communicate to his disciples through this parable?

What things in your life are represented by the talents?

If you were in this story, which of the 3 servants would you most likely be?

Everyone has been given something from Jesus to steward according to our ability.



How do I know what my gift mix is?

Confluence of 3 Things

Affinity—what you love and have a passion for?

Ability—what you are good at or what comes naturally for you?

Affirmation—what can others who are close to you in relationship discern/call out in you life that seems like the wisdom of God and the joy of your heart?

In Exodus 35 we come across two dudes with strange names (Bezalel and Oholiab) who were filled with the Spirit for a very specific purpose...to build the tabernacle with all its furnishings exactly as God showed Moses (Exodus 25:8-9).

These guys were apparently already gifted or inclined towards the artistic/creative realm. But when they were INFUSED and filled with the Spirit, their giftedness stopped being just about themselves...

Guys, hear this: your realm of giftedness or the “grace on your life” is not nor ever just about you or me. What if, under the inspiration and empowerment of the Spirit that gift and grace was meant to be the very area you and I could EQUIP and EMPOWER others in!

I love Exodus 35:30-34 where it says they were not only given the skills and abilities necessary for their destiny and vocation but also the ability to TEACH OTHERS! So, in what ways has God given gifts and graces to you? Are those areas you are actively seeking to impart, teach, equip and enlist others in? They can be!

Gifts and graces often reveal or serve as indicators to us of the very areas/arenas God wants to use us to teach and encourage others. Whatever that area/arena is...YOU ARE NEEDED!



What you have and who you are is absolutely essential in God's plan to redeem and reconcile all of creation to himself in Jesus. I pray you would be filled with the Spirit and understanding that where God has you is no mistake! That the world needs your gift and grace functioning at full capacity...the church needs you!

Start with:

- What you've *got*, not what your *not*
- Start immediate, start small
- Live wholehearted, all the time
- Pursue excellence in everything
- Focus on faithfulness and the fruitfulness will follow!

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.—Ecclesiastes 9:10

Let's take a moment to assess what God has uniquely gifted us in....

Take a moment to reflect on each of these categories, if there is an area where you have strengths, circle or highlight them.

A List of Spiritual Gifts

Spiritual Gifts, also called Gifts of the Spirit, are special abilities given to us by God. When the Holy Spirit comes to dwell with us, He brings these gifts. He then uses us to manifest these gifts to strengthen and build the body of Christ (Church). Every believer has at least one gift. Most believers have more than one.

Prophecy. Ability to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely anointed utterance. (1 Cor 12:10, 28; Rom 12:6; Eph 4:11; Acts 15:32; Acts 21:9-11; Lk 7:26)

Pastor. Ability to assume a long term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of believers. (Eph 4:11; 1 Tim 3:1-7; Jn 10:1-18; 1 Pet 5:1-3)

Teaching. Ability to communicate information relevant to the health and ministry of the body and its members in such a way that others will learn. (1 Cor 12:28; Rom 12:7; Eph 4:11-14; Acts 18:24-28; Acts 20:20,21)

Wisdom. Ability to know the mind of the Holy Spirit in such a way as to receive insight into how given knowledge may best be applied to specific needs arising in the body of Christ. (1 Cor 12:8; Acts 6:3, 10; 2 Pet 3:15; 1 Cor 2:1-13; Jas 1:5,6)

Knowledge and Word of Knowledge. Ability to discover, accumulate, analyze and clarify information and ideas which are pertinent to the growth and well-being of the body. The Word of Knowledge is the revelation of a fact in existence which cannot be seen, heard or revealed naturally. It is in existence, it is a fact, it is knowledge and it is supernaturally revealed by God. (1 Cor 12:8; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor 2:14; Col 2:2,3)

Exhortation. Ability to minister words of comfort, consolation, encouragement and counsel to other members of the body in a way that they feel helped and healed. (Rom 12:8; 1 Tim 4:13; Heb 10:25; Acts 14:22)

Discerning of spirits. Ability to know with assurance whether certain behavior purported to be of God is in reality divine, human, or satanic. (1 Cor 12:10; Acts 16:16-18; 1 Jn 4:1-6)

Giving. Ability to contribute material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness. (Rom 12:8; 2 Cor 8:1-7; 9:2; 6-8)

Helps. Ability to invest the talents you have in the life and ministry of other members of the body, thus enabling them to increase the effectiveness of their own spiritual gifts. (1 Cor 12:28; Rom 16:1,2; Acts 9:36)

Mercy. Ability to feel genuine empathy and compassion for individuals, both Christian and non-Christian, who suffer distressing physical, mental or emotional problems, and to translate that compassion into cheerfully done deeds which reflect Christ's love and alleviate the suffering. (Rom 12:8; Acts 16:33,34; Lk 10:33-35; Acts 8:4; Rom 10:15)

Missionary. Ability to minister whatever other spiritual gifts you have in a second culture. (1 Cor 9:19-23; Acts 22:21; Acts 13:2,3; Acts 8:4; Rom 10:15) **Evangelist.** Ability to share the Gospel with unbelievers in such a way that men and women become Jesus' disciples and responsible members of the body of Christ. (Eph 4:11; Acts 8:5,6, 26-40; 2 Tim 4:5; Acts 14:21; 21:8)

Hospitality. Ability to provide open house and warm welcome for those in need of food and lodging. (Rom 12:9-13; Heb 13:1,2; Acts 16:15; Rom 16:23)

Faith. Ability to discern with extraordinary confidence the will and purposes of God for the future of His work. (1 Cor 12:9; Acts 27:21-25; Acts 11:22-24; Rom 4:18-21; Heb 11)

Leadership. Ability to set goals in accordance with God's purpose for the future and to communicate these goals to others in such a way they voluntarily and harmoniously work together to accomplish those goals for the glory of God. (Rom 12:8; Acts 15:7-11; 1 Tim 5:17; Acts 7:10; Heb 13:17)

Administration. Ability to understand clearly the immediate and long range goals of a particular unit of the body of Christ and to devise and execute effective plans for the accomplishment of those goals. (1 Cor 12:18; Acts 27:11; Acts 6:1-7)

Miracles. Ability to serve as human intermediary through whom it pleases God to perform powerful acts that are perceived by observers to have altered the ordinary course of nature. (1 Cor 12:10,28; Acts 19:11-20; Rom 15:18,19; Acts 9:36-42)

Healing. Ability to serve as human intermediary through whom it pleases God to cure illness and restore health apart from the use of natural means. (1 Cor 12:9,28; Acts 5:15,16; Acts 14:8-10)

Tongues. Ability to (a) speak to God in a language never learned, and/or (b) to receive and communicate an immediate message of God to His people through a divinely anointed utterance in a language never learned. (1 Cor 12:10,28; 14:13-19; Acts 2:1-13; 19:1-7; 10:44-46)

Interpretation. Ability to make known in the vernacular the message of one who speaks in tongues. (1 Cor 12:20,30; 14:13, 26-28)

Apostle. Ability to assume and exercise general leadership over a number of churches with an extraordinary authority in spiritual matters which is spontaneously recognized and appreciated by those churches. (1 Cor 12:28; Eph 4:11; 2 Cor 12:12; Eph 3:1-9)

Intercession. Ability to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis and see frequent and specific answers to prayers to a degree much greater than that which is expected of the average Christian. (Jas 5:14-16; 1 Tim 2:2,2; Col 1:9-12)

Service. Ability to identify the unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired goals. (Rom 12:7; Acts 6:1-7; 2 Tim 1:16-18)

The best way to identify how God has gifted you is to start serving. Your gift will become evident. We like to say you will become "fruitful and fulfilled." The people around you will feel the benefit of your gift. You will get a sense of fulfillment from seeing your work. Different scholars point out different gifts found in the scripture.

God gifts people in amazing ways. We take the widest possible view. So where some observe 9 core gifts, others see many more in their application. The important thing is to let God use you. This is an adventure. Make the most of it.

Volunteer to serve in different areas at different times. See what fits and feels right to you.

Another way of identifying your gift areas is to take a "Spiritual Gifts Assessment." The easiest way is to do an online survey. These are experience assessments. This means you answer questions based on how you think and react to different situations. Your natural/supernatural reactions may point towards a spiritual gifting in that area. It isn't a guarantee that is your spiritual gift... but your responses help to uncover patterns that you may not have previously noticed.

Lastly, As we grow and mature, Our gifting may shift based on the needs of the body around us. We may begin to use gifts we never knew we had. The regular operation of other gifts may fade. Our gifts are meant to meet the needs of the church family. So as the needs change... so might our gifts.

Here are a few websites that offer free online gift surveys. These are great because they score themselves.

[Spiritualgiftstest.com](http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com)

(Questions to help you discern spiritual gifts. Remember: Healing, Tongues are not included in this questionnaire, since their presence in the life of a believer is generally self-evident.)

<http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com/test/adult> This is a good test. It focuses on the 15 most prominent gifts listed in scripture. Several gifts are not included. 105 questions (about 10-15 minutes)

Additionally, because we are whole or *integrated* beings growing in the awareness of our personality, strengths and overall makeup bring us into greater insight regarding who we are to Jesus, and our part to play in his purposes in the church and the world.

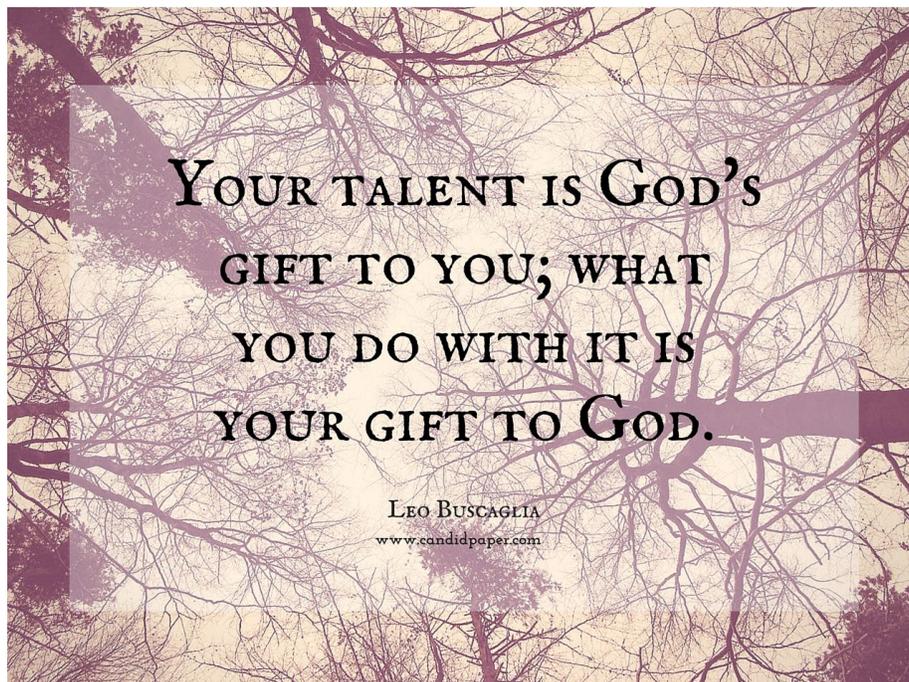
<http://www.16personalities.com/free-personality-test> (Myers Briggs)

<https://www.123test.com/disc-personality-test/> (DISC)

<http://www.exploreyourtype.com/details> (Enneagram)

<http://www.fivefoldsurvey.com> (Fivefold survey—discovering your unique leaning within the grace gifts listed in Ephesians 4:11-16)

strengthsfinder.com An amazing resource that cost money but is worth every penny as knowing our strengths is one of the main ways we discern vocation, calling and sweet spot for serving.



Investing in the local church

God gives us gifts so we can invest them in the local church, building his kingdom together as the family of God.

OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST YOUR TALENTS HERE AT CORNERSTONE

USHERS, GREETERS, HOSPITALITY, VISITATION

More Info: Ken Childress / care@cornerstonesm.org

- Once a month greet at the doors from 9:45 – 10:15
- Once a month come at 8:30 to put out coffee, refreshments & communion

WORSHIP & CREATIVE ARTS TEAM

More info: Jade Molina / jademolina@outlook.com

- Sound Tech /word projection / Training Provided
- Audition for Musician / Singer
- photographer / graphic design / video / storytelling

PRAYER

More info: Patti O'Keefe / prayer@conerstonesm.org

- Pre-Service Prayer 9:30 – 9:45 on Sundays in worship center
- Wednesday night 5:30-7pm in office lounge
- Tuesday & Thursday mornings 6-7am in office lounge

KIDS MINISTRY & NURSERY

More info: Andrew Daly / family@cornerstonesm.org

- Volunteer to help in Kid's Ministry 10:30 – 11:30 Training provided.
- care for babies (4 months to 3 years old)
- 9:45-11:30 once a month / Training Provided

YOUTH MINISTRY

More info: Emily Zimmerman / youth@cornerstonesm.org

- Friday nights volunteer as a group leaders/mentor. Training provided.
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- Friday nights youth worship team, practice 4:30, service is 7:00
 - Friday night drivers for service. Pick-ups, 5:30 pm and drop-offs 9 pm
 - Friday night security team, monitor teens during arrival, and departure, and walk the grounds during service to make sure everyone is accounted for.
 - Friday night sound/tech team. Help run sound and production.
 - Youth creative team. Help with designs for various youth projects.
 - Volunteer for Jesus Club. Tommie Kunst-Thursdays 12:30-2, Fesler-Fridays 11:15-1:30

MEN'S MINISTRY

More Info: Steve Moeller / smoeller0361@gmail.com

- Help plan and serve at men's breakfast and events

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

More Info: Debbie Castillo / ladydebster@hotmail.com

- Join a team that helps plan and serve women's events

COMMUNITY GROUPS

More info: Andrew Daly / family@cornerstonesm.org

HOST or LEAD a Community Group

VISITATION

More Info: Ken Childress care@cornerstonesm.org

- Work alongside with Ken to visit those in need and those in hospitals.

RELEASE PRAYER MINISTRY

More Info: Scott & Janet McGee / semcgee1157@gmail.com

- Want to be *released* into your identity and purpose in Christ?
- Sign up for a session with a Release Prayer Team

BUILDING PROJECTS & MAINTENANCE

More Info: Robert Stnrod / rstnod@yahoo.com

- Help with work days
 - Volunteers skills towards building projects.
 - Works in harmony with the Board of Trustees and Pastor Andrew Daly
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Want to learn more about any or all of these ministries? Fill out this online FORM!

<https://cornerstonesm.churchcenter.com/people/forms/10466>

As a builder at Cornerstone Church, we ask that each person find at least one ministry to actively serve and invest in.

If you don't find a ministry here that suits your gifts or passion, consider launching a new ministry!

We would love to come alongside you and talk through your ideas and vision.

Contact Andrew Daly to start the process. family@cornerstonesm.org



3. Demonstrating and Declaring the Good News of God's Kingdom

loving what Jesus loves, serving who Jesus serves, in the power of the Holy Spirit

Read together the parable of the Sheep and Goats

Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. [33] He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. [34] “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. [35] For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, [36] I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ [37] “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? [38] When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? [39] When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ [40] “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ [41] “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil

and his angels. [42] For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' [44] "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' [45] "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' [46] "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."



GROUP DISCUSSION TIME

- What do you think Jesus was trying to communicate to his disciples through this parable?
- Who are the ones Jesus considers the "least"?
- If you were in this story, would you more often be in the category of the sheep, or the category of the goats?

"Each one of them is Jesus in disguise." – Mother Teresa