

4. Utilization

It is wrong for me to _____
_____.

“I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground.”
(vs. 25)

5. Motivation

_____ keeps
me from using my talent.

“Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents.” (vs. 28)

6. Application

If I don't use it, _____.

7. Blessing

If I use my talent wisely, I will _____
_____.

Group Discussion Questions

Connecting:

1. What comes to your mind when you hear the term *spiritual gifts*? (Perhaps it is a word, image, or question?)

Growing:

2. Read together 1 Corinthians 12: 4-26
3. Three times in verses 4-6 Paul, the author of Corinthians, repeats that all spiritual gifts and all acts of true service come from the same Spirit of God. Why do you suppose he makes such a big deal about this?
4. God gives spiritual gifts “*for the common good*” (verse 7). What kind of impact should this have on our understanding and practice of spiritual gifts?
5. Paul compares the Christian community to a human body. What can we learn about spiritual gifts from the way bodies function (verses 14-26)?
6. If all the gifts are equally important, why do we often feel we are less important and less useful?

Applying:

7. Each person share one new insight they've learned about spiritual gifts based on this discussion.
8. Share with your group what your spiritual gift(s) is. If you don't know for sure, describe what you think it might be.

Personal Application Ideas

1. Acquaint yourself with Redeemer's Network Ministry. "Network" is not a computer ministry, rather a networking of the right people, in the right places, for the right reasons. Network ministry is a three-phase process: 1) **Discovery** – 8 sessions; 2) **Consultation** – 1 hour; 3) **Service** to the Body of Christ – lifetime!

Discovery is the "Network Course" that helps you identify, understand, and articulate your God-given spiritual gifts. We teach on spiritual gifts while helping you identify your passion for particular ministries. In the second phase, shortly after the first, one of our consultants will help you match your gift/passion mix with the right ministry fit. Now armed with knowledge of your gifts and passion, you can begin to do what you were made to do.... Serve in the right place for the right reasons!

2. If you have yet to participate in the Network Course, seriously consider attending the next seminar... *detailed information available next week.*
3. If you've participated in the Network ministry, recall that process and consultation; use this reflection to rejuvenate your involvement. Are you connected in the right ministry? Are you acting on the knowledge gained? Do you need follow-up dialogue? Contact Pastor Sean at 763-574-7445 or s.kelly@redeemerfridley.org

Daily Reading Plan

Monday – Matthew 25:14-30
Tuesday – Ephesians 2: 1-10
Wednesday – 1 Corinthians 12: 4-26
Thursday – Romans 12: 3-13
Friday – Psalm 8

Also during this week: Chapters 29, 30, 31 from "*Purpose-Driven Life*" by Rick Warren

Memory Verse for Week: Ephesians 2:10

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Additional Resources

1. What You Do Best in the Body of Christ, Bruce Bugbee. *Bugbee is the author of Redeemer's "Network" course and in his book invites you to consider your God-given passion and spiritual gifts to make the biggest impact for the local church you are a part of.*
2. <http://www.elca.org/eteam/FindSpiritGifts.htm> - *This web-link from the ELCA will help give you an idea of your particular spiritual gifts.*

These and other resources are available at Northwestern Bookstores (www.nwbooks.com), Christian Book Distributors online (www.christianbook.com), or Amazon.com (www.amazon.com)



Doing Life Together

Pastor Dave Glesne *Gifts - How To Invest Your Life*
March 7, 2004 Ephesians 2:10

Investing Your Life

Matthew 25:14-30

1. Ownership

Everything I have _____
_____.

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them." (vs. 14)

2. Allocation

God has given me some _____
_____.

"To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability." (vs. 15)

*"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us."
Romans 12:6*

3. Accountability

God expects me to _____
_____.

*"After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts."
(vs. 19)*

One day God will ask ME: "What did you _____
with what you were _____?"