

## Motivation for Service

*"I am glad when I suffer for you in my body, for I am completing what remains of Christ's sufferings for his body, the church. God has given me the responsibility of serving his church by proclaiming his message in all its fullness to you Gentiles."*

Col. 1: 24, 25 (NLT)

- \_\_\_\_\_ for serving the body of Christ comes from your God-given \_\_\_\_\_.

Wrong Question: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

Right Question: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_?

**Reflection exercise for this week:** *Write these down in your journal, piece of paper, or word processor. Come back to it often as a reminder and even update it annually.*

1. If I could snap my fingers and know that I couldn't fail, what would I like to accomplish?
2. At the end of my life, I'd love to be able to look back and know that I'd done something about...
3. If my name were mentioned to a group of people who knew me well, they would say I'm really passionate about...
4. A conversation that would keep me talking late into the night is...
5. What I would most like to do for others is...

## Group Discussion Questions

### Connecting:

1. If you had all the resources and knew you couldn't fail, what is one thing you would try to do for God with your life?

### Growing:

2. Read together Colossians 1:24 – 2:1
3. What desire burns in Paul's (the author) heart?
4. What is he willing to go through in order to see his desire achieved?
5. Think about this: "*the mystery which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*" (verse 27) What does it mean to participate in the "hope of Christ's glory?"
6. What does it mean to "*present everyone perfect (or mature) in Christ*"? (verse 28)
7. What goes on inside you when you think about how passionate Paul is about his goal? (For instance, are you that passionate about anything, or does this kind of passion seem like something you could never have?)

### Applying:

8. Share one thing you *accomplished* as a child that you *enjoyed* doing? How might this translate into serving in a ministry to the body of Christ?
9. Share with the group what you love to do or what you're passionate about. (It doesn't have to be as dramatic as bringing the whole world to know Jesus Christ. It doesn't have to be the perfect description. It can even sound silly. Just share what comes to mind.) How might you be gifted by God to transfer this passion to minister to the body of Christ?

## 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. Join us for the next NETWORK SEMINAR. Mark your calendars for Friday evening, April 2 and Saturday April 3. More information and registration is located in the bulletin insert, or contact the church office to register! 763-574-7445
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](mailto:s.kelly@redeemerfridley.org)

## Daily Reading Plan

Monday – Exodus 18: 1- 12  
 Tuesday – Exodus 18: 13-27  
 Wednesday – Colossians 1:24 – 2:1  
 Thursday – Philippians 2: 1-8  
 Friday – 1 Peter 4: 7-17

Also during this week: Chapters 32, 33, 34, 35 from "Purpose-Driven Life" by Rick Warren

Memory Verse for Week: 1 Peter 4:10

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

## 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](http://www.nwbooks.com)), Christian Book Distributors online ([www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com)), or Amazon.com ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))



# Doing Life Together

Pastor Sean Kelly ..... Gifts - You Can't Do Everything!  
 March 14, 2004 Exodus 18:13-18

## Gift-based Ministry

- \_\_\_\_\_ do everything!

Wrong Question: What are we \_\_\_\_\_?  
 \_\_\_\_\_?

Right Question: How is the staff \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 for ministry?

*"What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone."  
 Exodus 18: 17,18 (NIV)*

- [Insert your name] \_\_\_\_\_ something to do!

Wrong Question: \_\_\_\_\_?  
 \_\_\_\_\_?

Right Question: \_\_\_\_\_?  
 \_\_\_\_\_?

*"What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?"  
 Exodus 18:14 (NIV)*

*"A Spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church."  
 1 Cor. 12:7 (NLT)*

*"It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have."  
 1 Cor. 12:11 (NLT)*