

SERMON: Gospel Centered Church
SERIES: Gospel Centered Service
SPEAKER: Pastor Brady

August 26, 2018

CONNECT (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

REVIEW (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

SCRIPTURE:

Romans 12:3-16

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

SERMON OUTLINE:

- I. Right thinking about ourselves
- II. Right thinking about fellow believers
- III. Right thinking about our gifts

GROW (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. When you think about spiritual gifts what comes to mind? Read also 1 Corinthians 12:1-6.
 2. In Romans 12:3 Paul warns about thinking too high of ourselves and thinking too low of ourselves. Which of these do you tend towards? How does the gospel “level the playing field” for all Christians?
 3. Talk about this statement: “In spite of our differences we are dependent upon other’s gifts in order to experience the fullness of what it means to be followers of Christ.” Do you see your spiritual growth as being dependent upon the gifts of others? What makes this hard/easy for you to see?
 4. What is a spiritual gift – “An ability given by God for ministering to others to build up the body and spread the knowledge of God.” How do spiritual gifts make us contributors not consumers? Read 1 Peter 4:10. Are you using your spiritual gifts to serve Christ and the Body of Christ (the Church)?
 5. There is no exhaustive list of spiritual gifts. But do any of the gifts in Romans 12 stand out to you? Surprise you? Encourage you? Which might you see in your own life?
- Prophecy: proclaiming God’s word in powerful ways.
 - Service: meeting practical needs.
 - Teaching: making God’s truth clear and understandable.
 - Exhortation/Encouragement: coming alongside of another person, warning, comforting, counseling.
 - Giving: the desire and ability to give in unusual proportions.
 - Leadership: inspiring and moving people in a direction, zeal, not content with status quo.

Pray: Praise God for all of his gifts given to us to build up the church. Confess any superiority or inferiority that has prevented you from serving the church. Ask God to use you and your gifts to build his church.