

Group Discussion Guide *Series: GIFTS - Week 5 – Unwrapping Equipping Gifts*

GOAL

This week's discussion will help us to understand the purpose behind Equipping Gifts

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- How was everyone's week? Any Praise Reports/Testimonies of what God is doing?
- Share, and ask your group to share, your favorite points from the message.

SCRIPTURE AND MAIN POINTS

We are Called to Unity

- Read **Ephesians 4:3-6** – Talk about why Paul begins by discussing unity.
 - o What is the danger that can possibly come with people walking in their gifts?
 - o How do we keep unified in the midst of operating in gifts?

Jesus wants to fill the entire universe with Himself

- Read **Ephesians 4:7-10** – discuss the implication of Jesus giving us gifts out of generosity.
- How does Jesus fill the universe with Him if He is not here.

There is an Order

- Read **Ephesians 4:11-12** – discuss the reasoning behind gifts in the building of the body.
- Read **1 Corinthians 12:27-28** – Why is there an order to gifts if one gift is not more important than the others?
- Read **Ephesians 2:19-20** – talk about how this supports a "foundation of order"

Equipped by Apostles

- Apostle means "sent forth one" – they are sent forth to establish new things and are totally focused on bringing Heaven to earth through building a funnel of Heaven to earth
- Read **1 Corinthians 3:10** and talk about how an apostle brings the blueprints for the vision and why it's necessary for the church.

Equipped by Prophets

- Prophet means "the forth telling of the will of God" – they hear from God and speak His will, brings correction through encouragement, and challenge cultural norms.
- Read **1 Corinthians 14:3** – discuss this, the meaning of "forth telling" – not necessarily future telling.
- Read **Matthew 10:41** and talk about the "reward of a prophet" and why we need the gift.

Equipped by Teachers

- Teacher means to instill or to explain – one who communicates info for understanding.
- Read **James 3:1** and **1 Timothy 3:15** – talk about the idea that if there is no accurate teaching then the house is in chaos and doesn't know how to function.
 - o How should a teacher keep themselves accountable to truth?

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Equipped by Evangelists

- Evangelist means “messenger of good – preacher of the gospel”
- They are focused on one thing – getting people saved – talk about **Romans 10:13-14** and **Matthew 9:37-38**

Equipped by Pastors

- Pastor means “shepherd” – they are the ones responsible for caring for, protecting, guiding a group of believers – they shepherd the sheep. – refer to **Jeremiah 23:4**
- Talk about how often times we put the wrong demand of giftings on pastors and how we expect others in the position of overseers to be pastors when this isn’t always the case.

WRAP UP

Read **Ephesians 4:13-16** - Discuss this passage and talk about the needs of all giftings working together and what will happen as a flow from a house in order.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Ask for prayer requests and write them down – *as the group leader, pray for these requests during your week and make sure they are posted to the GROUP page on FB with who came to group.*

END IN PRAYER