

THE PURPOSE OF YOUR GIFTS

Ephesians 4:7-16

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Community Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the unique needs of their group. The Sunday message and these questions can be found each week at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- Whether you're a student, a stay-at-home parent, a realtor, a teacher, a builder, etc. - how would you describe what you do each day to someone you just met?
- Do you ever feel like your role in your job or in your community or in the world isn't very important? Remember John's story of the two bricklayers? How might changing your perspective on your work change the way you feel about the purpose of your work?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week's passage together. In his message, **John encouraged Christ-followers to use their individual gifts to fill the earth with the glory of God.**

Introduction:

- As a group, see if you can trace the theme of "fill the earth" through Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. (E.g., God's commands to Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, etc.)

Your Gifts Are:

1. Uniquely Put Together (Ephesians 4:7)

- John used the illustration of the cathedral when he was describing the church. What are some other illustrations of the church that we see in the Bible, or in everyday life around us? How do those pictures help us understand God's role and our role in the church?
- If you're a Christian, you are a masterpiece and God has given you a unique gift - a divine enablement to help build the church. Do you know what your gift(s) are? Here are four steps to talk through as a group:
 - **Spend** time with God; **Observe** gifted Christians; **Ask** others what you're good at, **Practice** different areas of gifts

2. Cultivated Through Biblical Teaching (Ephesians 4:11-14)

- Leadership is given to the church to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry. What are some specific areas in which you have been equipped for service since you became a Christian?
- Other than Sunday mornings, how do your Pastors, staff, Community Group leaders, etc. encourage you to be more like Jesus? (vs. 13)

3. Tools To Be Used For The Church (Ephesians 4:11-12; 15-16)

- John said, "God's plan to fill the entire universe with His glory is done primarily through the work of everyday saints." Dream a little with your group: If money wasn't a barrier, what would you do to show the glory of Jesus to the world around you?
- What could you do this week to do your part to spread God's glory and build the church?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that your group will discover their gifts, build the body, and fill the earth with God's glory.

