



SG | Small Groups

The 'e' stands for personal kingdom impact .

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

Their **responsibility** is to **equip** God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. *Ephesians 4:11-12*

You have a mission .

Paul, an **apostle** of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To God's holy people in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus... *Ephesians 1:1*

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought **us** back to himself through Christ. And God has given **us** this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave **us** this wonderful message of reconciliation. So **we** are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through **us**.

We speak for Christ when **we** plead, "Come back to God!" *2 Corinthians 5:18-20*

"Every Christian is either a missionary or an imposter."

— Charles Spurgeon

You have a specific role .

*"If you're alive and kicking today, then there is a **specific work** that you are expected to do...a set of tasks with your name on it that God has given you to accomplish."* — Bill Hybels

A **spiritual gift** is given to each of us so we can **help** each other. *1 Corinthians 12:7*

God has given each of you a **gift** from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to **serve** one another. *1 Peter 4:10*

Your part has equal importance .

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one **whole body**. So it is with the body of Christ. *1 Corinthians 12:12*

*"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to **serve others** and to give his life as a ransom for many."* *Mark 10:45*

Group Prep

Please read 1 Corinthians 12:1-26, then answer the following discussion questions prior to attending.

Introduction

The church is on a mission to accept the unaccepted, heal the broken, and bring hope to the world. There is a misconception among church attenders that it is the role of the clergy (those who work at the church) to fulfill this mission. However, the apostle Paul teaches that each believer must be a missionary in order to fulfill the church's mission.

Discussion Questions

1. Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-20, then read the quote by Charles Spurgeon found in your Weekend Service Handout. How do you feel about the words of the apostle Paul and Charles Spurgeon?

Have you ever had the overwhelming feeling that God has a mission for you to accomplish? If so, describe the mission and how you engaged in it? If not, why do you think you haven't?

2. After reading 1 Corinthians 12:1-26, what do you feel is the overarching message the apostle Paul is trying to teach us? Why do you think Paul uses the comparison of the human body to the church body? Take a moment to describe at least one of the ideas you found insightful.

What is Paul trying to teach us in verses 14-17? Why is it so important for those of us in the church body to grasp this concept? What is Paul trying to teach us in verse 18? Why is it important to understand that God has placed each part right where He wants it?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:7 and 1 Peter 4:10. Why do you think God has designed his church in this way? In what ways have you tried to determine how God has gifted you and how you can use your gifts to make a "personal kingdom impact?"

Read Mark 10:45. Jesus Christ holds serving others in highest regard. How are you currently serving as part of the church body? If you aren't, what's holding you back from stepping into this mission so you can make a "personal kingdom impact?"

4. Take a moment to fill in the blanks:

"My name is _____ . I'm a missionary.

I have the gift of _____ ,

and I love it. I was made for this."

What steps could you take this coming week to begin making a personal kingdom impact?

Outreach: Groups in Action

As a small group, start collecting hats and gloves (new or good condition) for the cold weather approaching. You can drop them off at the information counter during a weekend service throughout October.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____

_____ .

I'm accountable for _____ , and their action steps are

_____ .

My memory verse is _____ .

This coming week, I'm praying for:
