

Play your Position

(Insights on 1 Corinthians 12:1-31)

Pastor Dave Nichols, Grace Point Church, May 1, 2016

What are Spiritual Gifts?

_____ given by the _____

_____ to every believer in Jesus Christ.

(1 Corinthians 12:7-11)

Why do we have Spiritual Gifts?

1. For the _____

(1 Corinthians 12:7)

2. To help produce _____

(Ephesians 4:11-14)

3. To promote _____

(1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

Cautions about Spiritual Gifts:

1. Don't confuse Spiritual Gifts...

2. Don't confuse Spiritual Gifts...

3. Be aware of...

4. Don't get...

Key Principle:

It's easier to discover your gift through ministry activity than to discover your ministry through your perceived gift.

This weeks discussion guide:

Welcome to week 5 of our Small Group Session!

We are getting together to pray for one another and study God's Word. Our last meeting this quarter will be the week of June 19th.

Getting Started:

1. Have you ever known someone who thought they should play a certain position or fill a role, when they were actually a far better fit for a different position or role? Have you ever experienced this in your own life?

2. Have you ever had a seemingly insignificant injury, but after hurting yourself realize how much the injury affected other areas of your body/life? What was the injury? How did the injury happen? How did it affect other areas of your body/life?

3. What has been your experience with regards to Spiritual Gifts? Have you ever given them serious thought?

Was there a time when you saw the body of Christ using their Spiritual Gifts well? What were the results?

What do you think your Spiritual Gifts are? With this knowledge, how do you currently practice using your Spiritual Gifts?

Quick Review: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

Digging Deeper:

1. This weekend we heard how as followers of Christ we all have a unique position to play on God's team.

1 **Corinthians 12:12-26** gives further details and insights into how an effective team functions.

As you read this passage, what are some of the things that catch your attention in regards to the various roles we play?

Can you think of ways you've benefited from others playing their role?

Can you think of any examples of how the team (aka the body of believers) might be hindered when someone isn't willing to play their role?

2. At times it can be confusing to distinguish between God's part and our part in the use and development of our spiritual gift(s). How do the following verses help work through this balance?

1 Corinthians 1:6-9

Matthew 20:27-28

Ephesians 6:7-8

3. None of us want to be categorized as someone who failed to fulfill their role or was too self-absorbed to serve others. Yet all of us can, at times, lack the motivation to get involved or sense that we really do make a difference. How might the following verses motivate us to stay in the game and play our role?

Matthew 25:37-40

2 Thessalonians 3:6

Ephesians 2:10

4. When it comes to finding and playing our position, what are some of the potential roadblocks that can keep us on the sidelines?

- Don't think about it
- Feels like I'm a servant
- Pressure of your own responsibilities
- Past hurt
- My own success
- Not sure how to
- Other: _____

How have you overcome some of the roadblocks you have faced in using your Spiritual Gifts?

Wrapping Up:

Based on last week's message and our discussion, is there any specific application that God might be prompting you to live out?

Take a few moments to take some prayer request and spend some time praying for the other members in your group.