

Image Bearer – Week 5

High School Ministry Teaching Guide

BIG IDEA

God gave you gifts, not to build your own platform, but to serve others and build His church.

BIBLE

1 Corinthians 12 (specifically 4-7, 12-18)

ABOUT THIS WEEK

God gave you unique gifts—not to show off, but to build up others and serve His mission. Your talents don't define you, but they are tools God wants to use. Discovering and using your gifts helps you live out who you were made to be.

WHAT?

- What's something you're genuinely good at, but sometimes wonder if it really matters?
- Do you ever feel pressure to use your gifts to impress others, build your image, or get noticed?
- In a world that tell you to build your brand, show off your strengths, and climb higher, Jesus flips the script. He says, Use your gifts to lift others, not just yourself.
- In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul is writing to a church that is filled with comparison, pride, and insecurity. Some people thought they were better because of their gifts, while others felt unimportant.
- Paul says the church is like a body. Every part is different. Every part is needed.
- You may not preach, sing, or lead a Bible study, but that doesn't make your gifts less valuable.
- Whether you're creative, an encourager, a behind-the-scenes worker, a leader, or a listener, God designed you that way on purpose.
- As verse 7 says, our gifts are given to us "for the common good".

SO WHAT?

- You're at a time in your life where you are in the thick of discovering your strengths, but culture often pushes them to monetize, maximize, or idolize their gifts.
- The world says: "Use your gifts to make a name for yourself"
- Jesus says: "Use your gifts to lift others and glorify God"
- Where are you using your gifts for self-promotion instead of service?
- Are you hiding your gifts out of fear or comparison?
- You don't need to be the best to be valuable to the Kingdom of God. You just have need to be available.

NOW WHAT?

- **Challenge:** Choose one way this week to intentionally use your gift to serve others without needing recognition.
- **Next Step:** In small groups, we have an assessment that you can take to help you discover the ways God may have gifted you specifically.