



### ***BIG IDEA***

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

### ***BIBLE***

1 Corinthians 12:4–7, 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 are we talking about today?*

### **INTRODUCTION**

- Today we're finishing up our series Image Bearers, and we're answering a question that every one of us asks at some point: "What am I good at—and does it even matter?"
  - You might be insanely talented.
  - You might feel completely average.
- Either way, the truth is the same—you were made to use what you've been given for something that lasts.

### **HOOK – What's the Point of your platform?**

- In a world where everything becomes content—your talents, your opinions, your image—it's easy to believe your gifts are about building a personal brand.
  - We show off, compare, edit, and perform until what we're good at becomes a source of stress instead of purpose.
- But that was never the plan.
- You weren't made to use your gifts to impress people. You were made to use them to serve people.
- Because God's goal for your life isn't fame—it's impact.

### **One Body, Many Parts**

- In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul describes the church as a body made up of different parts—and every part matters.
  - Read **1 Corinthians 12:4-7**
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- Verses 4–7 say that there are different gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. And verse 7 says clearly: “A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.”
- In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul talks about spiritual gifts—abilities God gives us to serve others.
- But he continues with more:
- Read **1 Corinthians 12: 12-18**
  - Then in verses 12–18, Paul explains that the body doesn’t work unless every part shows up. The eye can’t say to the hand, “I don’t need you.” And the foot can’t say, “Because I’m not a hand, I don’t belong.”
  - Translation? You matter. You’re needed. You bring something only you can bring. But your gifts weren’t given to build your spotlight—they were given to build God’s kingdom.

### *SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?*

- Let’s be honest. In high school, gifts often become a competition.
  - You look at people more talented, more outgoing, more celebrated—and suddenly your gifts don’t feel like gifts anymore.
  - You feel invisible. Or maybe the opposite happens—your abilities make you stand out, and that attention becomes your identity.
- Either way, both lead to the same lie: Your worth depends on what you can do. That pressure is heavy. And eventually, it will crush you.
- But the gospel offers something better. It says: You are already loved. Already chosen. Already called—not because of what you bring, but because of what Jesus has done.
- The cross frees you from performing for value. And it calls you to use your value to serve.
- Jesus—who had every right to be served—chose instead to serve. And now He invites you to follow Him in the same way.
- So when you wonder if your gifts matter, remember this: God gave them to you. He put you where you are. And He wants to work through you—not someday, but right now.

### *NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?*

- So what do you do with this? Here’s the challenge:
  1. Identify your gifts—what are you good at? What do people affirm in you? What do you naturally care about?
  2. Ask God: “How can I use this to build others instead of build my image?”
- This week, find one small way to serve:
  - Speak life into someone who feels forgotten.
  - Use your creativity or leadership to help your church or a friend.
  - Step out of your comfort zone for someone else’s good.
- You don’t need a stage. You don’t need permission. You just need to say yes.

### **Closing Prayer and Dismissal to Small Group**

- “God, thank You for giving each of us gifts that matter. Forgive us when we compare, compete, or forget why we were made. Help us step into a life of service—not for attention, but for Your glory. Teach us to follow the example of Jesus, who gave everything so we could be free. Amen.”
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