

Small Group Notes - September 17th Sermon (Significance: Gifting and Spiritual Friendship)

These notes are linked to the September 17th preach (given by Paul Lambert) as well as the notes for September around Vision (specifically around significance). *The core passage for the session is Romans 12:1-8 and we suggest you start by prayerfully reading this.*

What strikes you as a go through the passage? How does it link back to the 3 themes that Paul highlighted:

- Lay our life and gifts before the God who gave us both
- Our life and gifts only work as part of a body / team
- Service comes out of knowing our unique gifts

The focus is on our unique calling and gifting to serve God in our world. The September notes express it as everyone having a song to sing, a message to deliver and a special way of being in the world.

How can we go deeper into what this looks like?

Work out your "motivational gifts" - those listed in verses 7-8 using one of the following approaches:

- a. Ask the small group for each person to prayerfully listen to God, as well as reflecting on their experience of that person, and write down what gifting they see in that person
- b. Take the motivational gift test at <https://www.gifttest.org/survey/> and bring the results along to the group to discuss (after they've reflected personally)

In using one of these approaches, consider the following questions:

- How does this inform how I serve in the church context?
- How might this inform the way I do my job and what work I choose to do?

To help, the table that was shown during the sermon is reproduced below and highlights what this gifting might look like in both contexts. Please emphasise that they are only examples.

Gifting	Church	Every day Life
Prophetic / Perceiver	Bringing direction	Bringing justice to workplace
Service	Serving church / community	Providing services and products for better world
Teacher	Preaching and teaching	Teaching and people development
Encourager	Speaking life	Arts & Culture
Giver	Funding kingdom work	Investment and Finance – for business and society
Ruler / Leader	Leadership	Management and Leadership
Mercy	Counselling / Pastoral	Social Work, Non for Profit

In the sermon, Paul also referred to a longer process of discovery called "Core Process". If you would like to have a small group session using this then Paul or one of the ministers can help. Drop them a line and they will let you know arrangements.