



Part 5: Gifted for Great Things

Note: We have provided you with more questions than you will likely need. Please don't feel pressure to talk about every question. Use the ones that you feel will be most useful in generating discussion in your group. We've designed this curriculum to be as user-friendly as possible. We've divided each week into "Hear," "Discuss," and "Apply" sections. In the different sections there will be passages of Scripture to read, notes to read to your group, and questions to ask.

Icebreaker

Ask

Share a time when you were the recipient of someone else's generosity?

Have you had the opportunity to serve at Bridgeway or another church before? What sort of ministry did you serve in and what drew you to it?

Hear

Ask

- Throughout the message Pastor Brian talked about the idea that God is radically generous. Is this a new way of thinking about God for you, or does it match what you already knew to be true? What are some evidences of God's generosity that you see in your life?

Leaders note: Try to steer the conversation away from material blessings, if possible. Recall from the sermon Pastor Brian's story about generous words from parents to his soccer players. Encourage your group to look at ordinary aspects of their lives for signs of God's generosity.

Read

See if your group can recap the first parable that Pastor Brian talked about. If you're more comfortable reading the story, have someone read Matthew 20:1-16.

Say

Pastor Brian talked about the oddity of the master returning again and again to hire more workers. He said that there is something more going on than meets the eye.

Play

Watch the first video clip that is on at www.bridgeway.church/litk. Leader's note: You may want to consider asking the questions below before showing the video clip so that your group members can think about them as they watch.

Ask

- What sticks out to you from this clip?
- Think about the places where you spend your time (home, workplace, school, coffee shops, other places you visit frequently). What are some practical ways that you can show God's generosity in those places? What resources do you have that you can use to bring blessing to others?

Say

LIVING INTO THE KINGDOM GROUPS

At the end of the parable in Matthew 20 the workers who worked all day grumbled when they saw the master's generosity towards the workers who arrived late. Can you relate to their feelings? What does it say about the state of our hearts if we are bothered by God's blessing of other people?

Later in the message Pastor Brian talked about the Parable of the Talents from Matthew 25:14-30. He talked about the idea that each of us has something to offer and each of us is gifted to participate in God's Kingdom. See if your group can recap the parable, or read it.

Play

Watch the second video clip that is on at www.bridgeway.church/litk

Ask

- What stuck out to you from this clip?
- 1 Corinthians 12 says that every believer is gifted to participate in God's Kingdom. Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? Do you have gifts that you are not currently using? What might it look like for you to begin to put those gifts to use?
- Later in the teaching Pastor Brian said that we benefit most from discovering and using our gifts. What are some of the ways that we benefit? How have you experienced the joy that comes from using your gifts in God's Kingdom?

Apply

Say

At the end of the teaching, Pastor Brian said one of the application points was for those who call Bridgeway home to find their place to serve (if they haven't already).

Ask

- Did you stop by any of the booths at church this weekend? Did anything catch your eye?

LIVING INTO THE KINGDOM GROUPS

- *Leader's Note: This question may not work if people in your group don't know each other very well.* What gifts do you see in others in your group? What ministries do you think would be a good match for your group members?
- Pastor Brian also encouraged us to shift the way we think about our jobs, homes, schools, and other places we spend our time. Those are places where we can participate in God's Kingdom. How can that change the way you engage with those environments?

Close

- God has been generous with us and He invites us to extend that generosity to others. He has called and gifted each of us to participate in His work in the world. Spend time praying for each other (and split into small groups if you'd like) that you would be able to use your gifts to show God's love to the world around you. If anyone is starting to serve in a new ministry take time to pray for God's blessing over them as they serve.

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