

HOMEWORK

Take the spiritual gifts assessment. If you are in a community group, bring the assessment to your meeting and be prepared to discuss how your gifts could be used for the glory of God's Kingdom.

RAISE THE QUESTION

"One reads Paul poorly who does not recognize that for him the presence of the Spirit, as an experienced and living reality, was the crucial matter for Christian life, from beginning to end."

—Gordon D. Fee, *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*

How have you experienced the presence of the Spirit as a living reality?

In our current series, *Full* we have been painting a picture of what a Spirit-filled life looks like. This week, we will turn our attention to the Spirit as the giver of God's grace. What we will see is that the Spirit of God gives us the grace of God so that we can do the will of God.

SEEK THE ANSWER

Read 1 Corinthians 12:1–11

Everyone wants to make a difference in this life, and, for Christians, this means making a difference for the Kingdom of God. But, often Christians are plagued by thoughts like "I don't really have a ministry" or "I feel useless." **Describe a time when you were investing a lot of time and effort on things that didn't have eternal value.**

Thankfully, God has not left us unequipped. In His grace, He sent the Holy Spirit, and the Spirit has empowered each one of us with gifts (1 Cor. 12:7). In other words, God has already gifted us to make a difference.

How should this truth change the way we pray?

LIVE THE TRUTH

Read 1 Peter 4:10–11

According to 1 Peter 4:10, each one of us has received a spiritual gift. But, many times we need guidance concerning the nuances of our particular gift. **Share your SHAPE spiritual gifts assessment with your community group, family or others who know you and discuss how your particular gifting brings glory to God.**

One of the crucial factors concerning spiritual gifts is their intended use. We are to use them "to serve one another" (1 Peter 4:10). **Discuss the gifts of one another in your group. How can serve others with your gifts in a way that might spur them on to good deeds?**

Verse eleven demonstrates that the power to use the gifts comes from God. God empowers us by His grace to serve others for His glory. **Pray for one another to be strengthened by God serve in His strength for His glory this week.**