

# Message Notes & Small Group Questions

October 29, 2023 – Creekside

"The Gifts: Embracing the Five-Fold Gifts" (Jeremy Crowe)

## Summary

In this week's message we delve into the understanding and importance of the spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit. Drawing from scriptures like 1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4, the speaker emphasizes the significance of the five-fold gifts: Apostolic, Prophetic, Evangelistic, Teaching, and Shepherding. Each gift has a unique role in the church, from governing and guiding to spreading the gospel, explaining biblical truths, and tending to the flock. The congregation is encouraged to recognize, activate, and empower these gifts within the community, ensuring that the church operates at its full potential.

## Study Questions

- Understanding Spiritual Gifts: How do you understand the concept of spiritual gifts, and how do they differ from natural talents? (Reference: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11)
- Embracing the Five-Fold Gifts: Which of the five-fold gifts do you resonate with the most, and why? How can you further develop and use this gift in your community? (Reference: Ephesians 4:7-13)
- The Role of Prophets: How do you perceive the role of prophets in today's church? How can their guidance be beneficial in current societal contexts? (Reference: 1 Corinthians 14:1)
- Evangelistic Outreach: Reflect on the story of Philip in the sermon. How can you adopt a similar evangelistic approach in your life? (Reference: Acts 8:5-8)
- The Responsibility of Teaching: Considering the weight of responsibility that comes with teaching, how can one ensure they are teaching in alignment with God's word? (Reference: James 3:1)

## Personal Practices for this Week

- Gift Identification: Spend time in prayer and self-reflection to identify which of the five-fold gifts you might possess. Seek feedback from trusted church members or leaders to gain more clarity.
- Scripture Study: Dedicate time each day to study the scriptures mentioned in the sermon, focusing on understanding the depth and application of spiritual gifts.
- Community Engagement: If you resonate with the Evangelistic gift, reach out to someone who doesn't know Christ. Share your testimony or simply show them love and kindness.
- Teaching and Sharing: If you identify with the Teaching gift, consider leading a small group study or sharing a biblical insight with a friend or family member.
- Prayer for Activation: Organize or participate in a prayer meeting, specifically praying for the activation and boldness of spiritual gifts within the church community.
- Gratitude Journal: Each day, write down one thing you are thankful for, even if you are in the midst of a Plan B situation. Share these with your church family at the end of the week.