

## Group Meeting

### Welcome!

Welcome to Session 17 of *Believe*. If there are any new members in your group, take a moment to introduce yourselves to each other. Then spend a couple of minutes sharing insights or questions about this session's personal study. Now start the video!

#### VIDEO TEACHING NOTES

*As you watch the video segment for Session 17, use the following outline to record some of the main points. (The answer key is found at the end of the session.)*

- Key Question: What gifts and skills has God given me to \_\_\_\_\_ others?
- Key Verse: "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member \_\_\_\_\_ to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." (Romans 12:4-6)
- Key Idea: I know my spiritual gifts and \_\_\_\_\_ them to fulfill God's purposes.
- (Key Application) As a community, help each other \_\_\_\_\_ what gift God has given to each of you.
- (Key Application) Know and \_\_\_\_\_ the gifts of the people God has placed around you.
- (Key Application) \_\_\_\_\_ your gift(s).
- (Key Application) Acknowledge and give God the \_\_\_\_\_ for your gift(s).

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**GETTING STARTED**


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*Begin your discussion by reciting the Key Verse and Key Idea together as a group. On your first attempt, use your notes if you need help. On your second attempt, try to state them completely from memory.*

**KEY VERSE:** "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." (Romans 12:4–6)



**KEY IDEA:** I know my spiritual gifts and use them to fulfill God's purposes.

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**GROUP DISCUSSION**


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*As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging, and why?*

- I know my spiritual gift(s).
- I regularly use my spiritual gift(s) in ministry to accomplish God's purposes.
- I value the spiritual gifts of others to accomplish God's purposes.
- Others recognize and affirm my spiritual gift(s) and support my use of them.

*Based on your group's dynamics and spiritual maturity, choose the 2–3 questions that will lead to the best discussion about this week's Key Idea.*

1. Take a moment to affirm the specific ways you see members of your group using their spiritual gifts.
  
2. Discuss the health of your spiritual community. Which parts are thriving and healthy? Which parts are hurting or nonexistent? What action step(s) can the group take to strengthen the body of Christ?

3. If people were unsure of their roles in the body of Christ, how would you advise them to discover their spiritual giftedness?
  
4. Some gifts get more attention than others, which can cause pride and jealousy within the body of Christ. How can your group safeguard itself from these destructive attitudes?

*Read 1 Corinthians 12:4–31 (see the section "Purpose and Function of Spiritual Gifts" in Believe) and choose 1–2 questions that will lead to the best discussion in your group.*

1. What role does your spiritual gift play in the redemption and restoration of broken people and a broken world?
  
2. Discuss parts of the human body that are not visible but are incredibly important. Similarly, which gifts within the body of Christ are rarely recognized yet vital to the success of the church's mission?
  
3. Why is it imperative for us to use our gifts with an attitude of love?

CASE STUDY

Use the following case study as a model for a real-life situation where you might put this week's Key Idea into practice.

Danny is frustrated. After giving his life to Christ five years ago, he has desperately tried to share the good news with as many people as possible. He has taught Bible studies at work, church, and in his neighborhood, but without the success he had hoped to achieve. Initially he would get a good turnout, but people would gradually lose interest.

A couple of months ago, a coworker invited him to a Bible study on Thursdays during their lunch hour. It started as a small group, but within a few weeks the break room was packed. Danny knew he should be excited, but he was just mad. Why was this guy having so much success, when Danny hadn't? He couldn't understand what he was doing wrong.

Using the Key Applications from this session, what could you say or do to help Danny find the answers to his frustrations? (If needed, refer to your video notes for a reminder of this session's Key Applications.)

CLOSING PRAYER

Close your time together with prayer. Share your prayer requests with one another. Ask God to help you put this week's Key Idea into practice.

JOURNAL

If your church is doing the Believe church-wide campaign, bring this study guide with you to church and use the following space to take notes from the pastor's or teacher's message. If your church provides an outline, consider keeping it with this guide so you will have all of your notes and thoughts from your Believe journey in one place.

Journal writing space with horizontal lines.

VIDEO NOTES ANSWER KEY

serve / belongs / use / discover / celebrate / Use / credit