

## Embracing Individuality

Text: 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:4-7, 27-31

Because God loves people and embraces their individuality, the church must embrace it as well. All believers have different gifts and are called to live them out as "God's tools" to reach the world with His love. Ref: John 13:34, 35

God created every person different as another expression of Himself.

People are drawn by diversity yet find comfort in conformity; they want change but are content with sameness; they yearn and fantasize for the exciting, but settle for the safe.

God works through each of us in wildly different ways according to our dominant gifts, the way we like to serve, and how we manifest or display the Spirit of God. Therefore, it is vital that we recognize and appreciate these differences in the Body of Christ Ref: 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 12:7

Motivational gifts are used by God to launch Christians into ministry.

Every believer has one dominant gift that motivates them more than others. Ref: Romans 12:6-8

Motivational Gifts Include

Prophesying: Saying What God Says

Serving: Taking Care of the Needs of Others.

Teaching: Informing Others of Something They Didn't Know Before. Ref: James 3:1

Encouraging: Delivering Hope

Encouragers see the presence of God and speak it to others while maintaining a clear view of the Lord working in another's life.

Giving: Enjoying Using Your Resources for Great Purposes

Leadership: Motivating Others

Leaders motivate others to follow by sharing the vision God has given them. They seek to involve others, not leave them behind.

Mercy: Caring Ref: James 2:13

Folks with the gift of mercy, will stop to minister to others and help those less fortunate, no matter what the situation.

Service Gifts Include: Ref: 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:27-31

Apostles:

Prophets:

Teachers:

Teachers are called to take the Word of God and de\_\_\_\_\_ it to the church in bite-sized portions that can be easily digested.

Worker of Miracles

Workers of miracles operate in the realm of answered p\_\_\_\_\_.

Healing:

Are you interested in taking a "spiritual gifts test." Call Pastor Steve Hayes at 294-1700 and we will set it up.