

## V. BE CONFIDENT IN YOUR GIFTS

*“20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.*

*21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”*

*22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.”* I Corinthians 12:20-22

*“And say to Archippus, “Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it.”*

Colossians 4:17

## VI. BE COOPERATIVE WITH YOUR GIFTS

*“Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.”* I Corinthians 12:27

- Every member is a minister in Christ’s body.

*“For as we have many members in one body, ...”*  
Romans 12:4a

- Every member has a different function.

*“...but all the members do not have the same function,”*  
Romans 12:4b

- Every member’s ministry is important.

*“so we, being many, are one body in Christ, ...”*  
Romans 12:5a

- Every member belongs to the others.

*“...and individually members of one another.”*  
Romans 12:5b

**ACTIVATE YOUR GIFTS!**

## NOW IS THE TIME! TO LET GOD USE YOU

It’s Time To Activate Your Gifts

**Pastor Steve Reynolds**

### INTRODUCTION

- A.** We all have basic needs. One of our common needs is significance. We share a need to experience a life of meaning and achievement. God meets this need by using us to serve others and give our lives to things bigger than just ourselves. God is actually looking for people He can use you in this way.

*“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. ....”*

II Chronicles 16:9a

As we begin a new year now is the time to let God use you in a much more significant manner.

- B.** The Now Is The Time! To Let God Use You Teaching series will reveal how to be used by God to enjoy a more significant life. It will include the following sermons:

Jan 8	Get Ready For God To Use You
Jan 15	It’s Time To Dedicate Your Body
TODAY	It’s Time To Activate Your Gifts
Jan 29	It’s Time To Manage Your Schedule
Feb 5	It Time To Contribute Your Money
Feb 12	It’s Time To Represent Your Lord

- C. Text:** I Corinthians 12:1-31

Your spiritual gifts determine your area of service for being used by God.

## HOW TO ACTIVATE YOUR GIFTS

One of the core values of our church family is Every Member A Minister. Our goal is to see every member of our church minister with their spiritual gifts as good stewards for the glory of God. We view this as a major step of spiritual commitment and development.

### I. BE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT YOUR GIFTS

*“Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant.”* I Corinthians 12:1

A spiritual gift is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit in the life of every Christian, which enables them to effectively serve in their local church.

*“Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.”* Ephesians 4:8

Four facts you must know about spiritual gifts:

- You have at least one (probably three) spiritual gifts.  
*“As each one has received a gift, ...”* I Peter 4:10a
- You are to minister to others with your spiritual gifts.  
*“...minister it to one another, ...”* I Peter 4:10b  
*“If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, ...”* I Peter 4:11a
- You are required to be a good steward (manager) of your spiritual gifts.  
*“...as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”*  
I Peter 4:10c
- You are to bring glory to God with your spiritual gifts.  
*“...that in all things God may be ...”* I Peter 4:11b

### II. BE AWARE OF YOUR GIFTS

*“4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.  
5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.  
6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.”* I Corinthians 12:4-6

*“11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,  
12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, ...”* Ephesians 4:11-12a

Complete a purple folder!

*“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you ...”* II Timothy 1:6a

### III. BE HELPFUL THROUGH YOUR GIFTS

*“7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:*

*25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.  
26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.”* I Corinthians 12:7, 25-26

There are two types of church members:

- Spectators – those who view the local church as a place to be served.
- Participants – those who view the local church as a place to serve.

*“Do not neglect the gift that is in you, ...”* I Timothy 4:14a

### IV. BE HUMBLE FOR YOUR GIFTS

*“But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”* I Corinthians 12:11

*“For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?”* I Corinthians 4:7