



ENCOURAGEMENT: Strengthening the Weak

April 13th, 2025

EMPOWERED
Discovering Spiritual Gifts

DAY 1: EMBRACING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

READING: 1 PETER 4:10-11, ROMANS 12:6-8

God has uniquely gifted each of us that follow Jesus to serve others and glorify Him. As we explore the concept of spiritual gifts, reflect on how you might be equipped to contribute to the body of Christ. Are you aware of your gifts? How are you using them to serve others and bring glory to God?

Remember, your gifts are not for your own benefit, but to build up the church and reveal Christ to the world. As we close this series, we continue to find joy in the process of discovering and discerning our spiritual gifts.

Today, ask God to help you discern and develop your spiritual gifts, and look for opportunities to use them in service to others.

DAY 2: THE NARROW PATH OF FAITH

READING: MATTHEW 7:13-14, LUKE 9:23-24

Jesus teaches us that the path of true discipleship is narrow and challenging. In a world that often promotes ease and self-indulgence, following Christ requires intentional dedication and sacrifice.

Reflect on areas in your life where you might be tempted to take the "wide and easy" path. What would it look like to choose the narrow path in those situations?

Remember, while this journey may be difficult, it leads to true life and fulfillment in Christ. Ask God for the strength and courage to embrace the challenges of faithful discipleship today.

DAY 3: THE POWER OF ENCOURAGEMENT

READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11, HEBREWS 10:24-25

Encouragement is a vital aspect of the Christian life, both in giving and receiving. The gift of exhortation goes beyond mere cheerleading; it involves spurring one another on toward love and good deeds, speaking truth in love, and helping others see their God-given potential.

Consider how you can be an encourager in your faith community today. Who might need a word of affirmation, challenge, or biblical truth?

At the same time, be open to receiving encouragement from others, recognizing it as God's way of strengthening and guiding you on your faith journey.



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DAY 4: PERSEVERANCE IN FAITH

READING: JAMES 1:2-4, ROMANS 5:3-5

The journey of faith often involves seasons of struggle, doubt, and discouragement. Yet, these challenges can be opportunities for growth and deepening our reliance on God.

Reflect on a time when you faced difficulties in your faith. How did God meet you in that struggle? Remember that perseverance produces character and hope. If you're currently in a season of spiritual difficulty, take heart knowing that God is with you and is working to refine your faith. Reach out to a trusted friend or mentor for prayer and encouragement as you persevere.

DAY 5: LIVING FOR ETERNAL IMPACT

READING: MATTHEW 6:19-21, COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

If you are a follower of Christ, we're called to live with an eternal perspective, setting our hearts on things above rather than earthly treasures. This mindset affects every aspect of our lives - our relationships, our work, our resources, and our priorities.

How might your life look different if you consistently viewed it through the lens of eternity? Consider one area where you can shift your focus from temporal concerns to eternal significance. Whether it's in your career, your giving, or your daily interactions, ask God to help you invest in what truly matters for His kingdom.