



“The Passionate Leader” - Discussion Guide

This message focused on the spiritual gift of leadership as outlined in Romans 12, emphasizing that true spiritual leadership in the church is about serving, guarding, guiding, and growing God's church. Pastor Todd interviews three church leaders who demonstrate this gift in different areas - student ministry, security, and community outreach. The message clarifies that spiritual leadership is not about titles or positions, but about passionate service with humility. Three key indicators of the spiritual gift of leadership are presented: understanding that leadership is about serving rather than being in charge, recognizing that ultimate authority belongs to God, and relying on God's wisdom rather than human strategy. The sermon emphasizes that only about 3% of church members have this as their primary spiritual gift, making it both rare and essential for church health and growth.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together today to explore Your gifts and calling on our lives, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us. Help us to approach this time with humility and eagerness to learn. Whether You are calling us to lead or to support those who lead, show us how we can best serve Your kingdom and Your church. Give us wisdom to understand our role in the body of Christ and the courage to step into whatever You are asking of us. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would guide our discussion and that we would leave here more equipped to serve You and one another. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's one leadership role you've had in your life (big or small) that taught you something important about yourself?

Key Verses

Romans 12:3-8

Colossians 1:15-18

1 Corinthians 2:1-7

Questions

How does the biblical definition of leadership as 'ruling' or 'governing' with zeal differ from worldly concepts of leadership?

Why do you think Paul emphasizes humility right before discussing spiritual gifts in Romans 12:3?



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What are some ways we can guard, guide, and grow our church community in practical terms?
How can someone with the spiritual gift of leadership maintain the balance between taking initiative and remaining humble?
What's the difference between having a leadership title and having the spiritual gift of leadership?
Why is servanthood described as a prerequisite for spiritual leadership? How do we see this demonstrated in Jesus' ministry?
How can we recognize and support those in our church who have the spiritual gift of leadership, even if they don't hold official positions?
What role does seeking God's wisdom play in effective spiritual leadership, and how is this different from relying on human strategy?

Life Application

This week, identify one area in your church or community where you see a need for leadership or organization. Whether you have the spiritual gift of leadership or not, take one practical step to serve in that area - it could be volunteering, offering to help coordinate something, or simply encouraging someone who is already leading. Focus on serving first rather than seeking recognition.

Key Takeaways

The spiritual gift of leadership is about passionate service in guarding, guiding, and growing God's church, not about titles or positions
True spiritual leaders are first and foremost servants who understand that leadership means serving others rather than being in charge
Spiritual leaders recognize that ultimate authority belongs to God, not themselves, and they rely on God's wisdom rather than human strategy
Only about 3% of church members have leadership as their primary spiritual gift, making it both rare and essential for church health
The spiritual gift of leadership can be applied to any area of ministry or service where someone feels passionate about making a difference

Ending Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank You for the example You set as the ultimate servant leader. Help us to follow Your model of leadership through service and humility. For those You have gifted with spiritual leadership, give them wisdom, courage, and a heart that seeks Your will above all else. For the rest of us, help us to support and encourage our leaders while faithfully using our own gifts to build up Your church. May we all remember that we serve under Your ultimate authority and that our goal is to bring glory to Your name, not our own. Guide us as we seek to guard, guide, and grow Your church in our community. Give us unity as we work together, each using our gifts for Your kingdom purposes. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.