



BRING LIFE
WHERE JESUS' PEOPLE ARE

SESSION 1

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CHECK IN

Each week there will be a Bring Life assignment; an opportunity to act on the invitation to be a life-bringer.

Q1: What prompted you to join a Bring Life group? What do you hope to get out of it?

TOES-IN-THE-WATER

God makes every one of us uniquely. Like fingerprints and snowflakes, no two are alike. We're each a unique combination of personalities, interests, skills, and experiences.

Q2: What are you not very good at?

Q3: What are you really good at?

WATCH THE VIDEO NOW (and use the space below to take notes)

GET READY

One of the primary ways God brings us together is by gifting each of us differently. We need one another. We are better together. And everyone has something to bring. We all have talents and interests. Jesus followers have also been given the Holy Spirit and Spiritual gifts for the very purpose of serving one another; building one another up.

Listen to the Apostle Peter's encouragement to the readers of this 1st century letter:

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen."

1 Peter 4:10-11

Q4: What can we learn about the way our gifts ought to be used?

Read the Apostle Paul's teaching on the essential role of each part of the physical body and how it compares to the spiritual body called the Church:

"The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?

But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. How strange a body would be if it had only one part! Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you."

In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with

it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad.

All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it."

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Q5: Can you boil Paul's teaching down to a single sentence?

TAKE ACTION

Q6: Is anyone serving in some way at Canyon Ridge? Take a moment and share with the group the part you play and how you feel contributing.

Q7: What are you really good at? What are you really interested in? What do you love to do that helps make others stronger?

Note: If you know each other well already, be sure to acknowledge and affirm the gifts, skills, interests and abilities of the members of your group.

Q8: What will you do this week to begin to use your gifts, skills, interests and abilities at Canyon Ridge?

Don't end your meeting without making a plan and commitment for how you will use your gifts and talents regularly with other believers.

Complete this sentence: To be a life-bringer at church, I will _____

PRAY TOGETHER

One way we can be united is by committing to pray for one another. Take some time as a group to share your prayer requests. Be sure to record everyone's requests on the Prayer Notes on page 152.