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## Week 3 Leader Guide

### THE WIN

The group members will better understand what it means to be a servant within the body of Christ by recognizing their spiritual gifts.

1-2  
minutes

### SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week, we examined what it means to serve together in sharing the mission and vision of the church.

3-5  
minutes

### WARM UP

**Say this:** There have been many actors and actresses who have played the role of a “servant” on once popular TV shows. When I name this old TV sitcom, tell us the character’s name.

- Adam’s Family (*Lurch*)
- Fresh Prince of Bel Air (*Geoffrey*)
- Batman (*Alfred*)
- Brady Bunch (*Alice*)
- The Nanny (*Fran*)
- The Jefferson’s (*Florence*)
- Who’s the Boss (*Tony*)

**Ask this:**

- Which one of these TV “servants” is an example of what it means to serve? Why?
- Which one of these TV “servants” is not an example of what it means to serve? Why?
- Jesus said he came not to be served, but to serve. What are some examples of how Jesus was a servant to others?

## THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

**Do this:** Have someone read Romans 12:3.

**Ask this:** What can we conclude about the gifts of the Spirit from the first statement in verse 3: “For by the grace given to me...”?

**Say this:** Notice these gifts are give to us by the Holy Spirit. We don’t select them, nor do we earn them. God assigns gifts according to his will.

**Ask this:** What is the importance of this statement from verse 3: “I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think...”?

**Say this:** Christians can be prone to think we are somehow better than others because of what we do in the church. However, each gift given to a follower of Christ is an important part of a healthy church. Some gifts are utilized in a public way while others go unseen. Regardless of the gift, God is the source of our gifts and as we serve Him out of obedience, no gift is better or more important than another. Humility is important as a servant of Christ and a follower of Christ should not take pride in their gifting.

**Do this:** Have someone read Romans 12:4-5.

**Ask this:** Why does Paul use the comparison between the human body and the body of Christ?

**Say this:** There are many parts of the body that work together in the simple task of walking across the room. Your brain, muscles, bones, and a host of other parts partner together to make the act of walking possible. Paul wants us to know, for the body of Christ to function the way she is intended to, the various individuals, who have different functions, must come together.

**Ask this:** What do you think Paul wants the believer to understand when he says that followers of Christ are many parts of one body and we all belong to one another.

**Say this:** Think of it like a team sport, everyone pulls together to accomplish their role for the team to win. In the body of Christ, we have different positions, creating a healthy, vibrant, and disciple-making community of believers.

**Do this:** Have someone read Romans 12:6-8.

**Ask this:** What are ways a follower of Christ can use their gifts at Rush Creek? This small group?

**Say this:** At Rush Creek, our desire is for you to partner with us, utilizing your God-given abilities as we come together as one body **to become more like Jesus, so we can be Jesus, to the overwhelmed, under-resourced, and far away!**

## DIGGING DEEPER

**Application:** Encourage all group members to take the Spiritual Gifts Analysis found at [rush.is/giftstest](http://rush.is/giftstest) as a homework assignment. Point out that the final section of this analysis is how to apply the results of the test to the variety of ways a person can serve at Rush Creek.

## CLOSING THOUGHT

**Pray:** Spend some time in prayer seeking the Lord to reveal the spiritual gifts of those group members who do not currently know their gifts and that each one will use these abilities as a servant at Rush Creek.