

January 24 CG Guide

Exodus 25 -26

Remember

What is the most complicated thing that you have ever put together or built?

CG leaders - The goal of this question is to get your group to start talking and to have a chance to get to know one another. Once everyone has had a chance to contribute you can move on to talking about the sermon. Transition: "On Sunday we talked about the building of the tabernacle..."

What were some things that stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday?

Deepen

What was the purpose of the Tabernacle? Look at [Exodus 25:8](#) God was setting up a way to dwell with his people.

Brian talked about how in John 1 it is explained that Jesus "Tabernacled" among us. What are connections between Jesus and the purpose of the Tabernacle? -

*CG Leaders - I am asking how this idea is important in our day to day lives and how Jesus' incarnation affects our daily lives,
Hebrews- He can sympathize with weakness.*

Brian also talked about the church being the living tabernacle.

[Read 1 Peter 2:4-12](#)

How does individuality and community work together in this passage?

We come to Jesus individually but are placed into one building working together.

How do your gifts/passions fit into the building that God is putting together here locally?

Here is an interesting story with potential questions for your group taken from ["How People Change"](#) - (T.S. Lane, P.D. Tripp)

"Think about the gifts God has given you. How are they meant to serve other members of the body as they seek to honor Christ? What gifts do you need from others to help you do the same thing?"

When we don't think about our gifts in this corporate way, the very gifts that are given to bless the community are used to divide it. I

remember a situation where a church was located near a trailer park. Over the years, the church had struggled to reach out to this community. In a congregational meeting, the pastor encouraged the congregation to make a new commitment to serve the people there. One person stood up and said that past efforts had failed because the church lacked organization. Another person said that the church had failed due to a lack of knowledge regarding the people's practical needs. Still another said that the church lacked evangelistic zeal.

In each case, the person offering the criticism had the gifts to make the effort succeed! The person who saw a lack of organization had the gift of administration. The person who saw the lack of concern for practical needs had the gift of mercy. And the person who thought the church lacked evangelistic zeal had the gift of evangelism. What should have been a very successful outreach was short-circuited because they had not been using their gifts, the very gifts that were needed most. Instead, they had lapsed into an unhealthy criticism of what others were not doing.

About a month later, these three individuals got together and pooled their gifts of evangelism, mercy, and administration to spearhead a successful ministry to the residents of the trailer park. The lesson is obvious: we are better when we are together. Without a combination of gifts expressing the grace of Christ, that very grace is shrouded in ineptitude and pride. Our gifts are for the common good, not self-aggrandizement. When we fail to see this, we find that our gifts actually create division within the body of Christ, instead of uniting us.

Are there places where your gifts are needed in the body of Christ? A better question is, where are your gifts needed? One good way to determine your gifts is to ask yourself where you see weaknesses in the body. It is highly likely that you see these weaknesses because you are looking at the very place where God wants you to serve your brothers and sisters."

What are God's purposes in this passage (1 Peter 2:9-10) for putting together this building?

His purpose in Vs. 9-10 is that we would proclaim His excellencies. He has redeemed us to worship him and represent Him in the world.

What are some passions of the flesh that wage war against our souls? Vs 11-12

Transform

How does the Gospel wage war against the temptations of your soul?

How does living in community wage war against the temptations of your soul?

On Sunday Brian said “we are always reflecting and representing something...

Who’s getting the attention?” Consider who is getting the attention of your life?

In Verse 12 - We are called to live in a way so that people see our good works and glorify God. What are some personal things that take attention and glory away from God’s work in your life and His character in the world?

CG Leaders - It is not enough that people would see that we are good - the purpose of our good is to glorify our Father in Heaven.