

# USING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

## Lesson Three: Finding Your Ministry Niche

### NOTES

#### Review

*Do you have a sense for what your spiritual gifts are? Is it possible to know your spiritual gifts? How important is it to know your spiritual gifts?*

#### Practical Help for Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts

Please remember, there is no command to discover your spiritual gifts – only to use them!

I offer the following as practical way to help discover your spiritual gifts:

- Pray – with a sincere heart that is focused on obedience, pray for God to help you understand who He has made you to be in Christ.
- Review – prayerfully review the “spiritual gift lists” in the NT.
- Watch – cultivate a Spirit-controlled sensitivity to the needs in our body and see how God could use you to minister for Christ.
- Ask – seek out a godly church member to provide perspective for what they see as God’s gifting in your life.

Don’t forget the goal: *“Spiritual gifts are used for spiritual purposes . . . (for) use within the context of the local assembly of believers (Eph. 4:12).”*

#### Find Your Ministry Niche!

Serving Christ by discovering and deploying your spiritual gifts in the local church is on facet of your obedient service to Christ. There several biblical principles to help you know how and where to best serve Christ:

- *Giftedness: what do I prefer to do in the church (speaking or serving; tasks or people)? (Eph 4:11-12; 1Pet 4:10-11; Rom 12:6-8 and 1Cor 12:1-31)*
- *Burdens: what has God put in my heart; who do I have a burden to reach? (Philippians 2:13; Psalms 37:4; Nehemiah 2:12)*
- *Opportunities: what doors has God opened for you to speak or serve; what could you do? (Gal 6:10; Phil 4:10)*
- *Experiences: how has God prepared you to serve others with what He has taught you? (2 Corinthians 1:3-4)*

#### Take Your Next Steps!

- *Review what you have learned.*
- *Determine where you think God wants you to make a contribution.*
- *Pray, prepare, watch and act!*

Our pastoral staff and assistants want to help you plug into ministry here at ICBC. If there is a ministry in which you want to serve, please contact them.