

# ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, October 9, 2022 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 5 | Congratulations! You're Gifted!

1 Corinthians 12:1-31; Romans 12:1-9; Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 4:10-11

God gives common gifts to **EVERYONE**,

common grace — everyone gets a "HAPE"

and **SPIRITUAL GIFTS** to each one who receives Christ


Christians get a "SHAPE"

**A Definition:** *Spiritual gifts are a set of God-given and Spirit-empowered spiritual abilities given to every believer, according to God's grace, to help them fulfill their God-given personal purpose as part of the Church.*

—for Jesus's **GLORY**, others' **GOOD**, and your **JOY!**

always this order (i.e. it's not about you!)

discover, develop, & deploy your gifts

 Text us at **833-271-8805** anytime!  
Text "GIFTS" to get an ebook describing many of the gifts listed in Scripture. Read through them and consider which gifts you might have. Ask others for their input. *Serve somewhere to truly discover, develop, and deploy them!*  
Text "HELPER" to get a 7-day series of devotionals on how the Holy Spirit helps you!

## DISCOVERING YOUR SHAPE

God has given the Church—and every Christian—a purpose and mission. We're all called to love Jesus and love other people. At Wawasee we say it like this, *We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.*

But God has uniquely gifted and equipped—you might say "SHAPEd"—each of us to fulfill that purpose in a distinct way. The acronym "SHAPE" can help you remember and discover how God has uniquely and personally shaped you!

### S stands for Spiritual Gifts

**What spiritual gifts has God given you?** If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you have been filled with God's Spirit. The Bible reveals that God has given you one or more spiritual gifts you can use to build up the body of Christ (other Christians).

### H stands for Heart

**What are you really passionate about?** The answer to this question would include your special passions or the "loves" of your life.

### A stands for Abilities

**What are you naturally good at?** This is your set of talents God gave you when you were born. You're good at something—in fact, you're good at a bunch of things! God doesn't want you to waste your natural abilities; instead, he wants you to use them to make a difference in his world.

### P stands for Personality

**How do you usually relate to people and situations?** This is the special way God wired you to navigate life. There's not a right or wrong personality, there's your personality—and it plays a role in determining the way you impact the world for God.

### E stands for Experiences

**What have been your positive and negative experiences and what have you learned?** You have a past—we all do. There are parts of your past (both positive and painful) that God will use in great ways in the future. God doesn't waste our hurts—your past will teach you lessons that will contribute to your future.

## life groups Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

**What is this?** — Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

### Welcome to Life Groups!

Each week we'll spend part of our time getting to know more about one another.

#### Encourage Your Group:

*You've had at least a few weeks now with your Life Group. Think about each member of your group and write down one strength, character trait or positive attribute you see in them.*

**Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching,** *was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

*Most people attending church for a while have heard the term "spiritual gift" before. Despite this, many people are still unaware of their gifting(s). Why do you think that is?*

### Digging Deeper – A Bible Study

**Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.** For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

- Part of the free will we've been given is that God gives us talents, strengths and abilities but does not force our hand in using them. This means we can choose to use something intended for good in a different way than God intended. What might it look like to use the gifts and strengths below in misguided or unhealthy ways?

**Service** (e.g. constantly serving while your family never sees you...)

**Compassion**  
**Encouragement**

**Giving**  
**Teaching**

- Study **Ephesians 4:11-16** below. **Circle** or **highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention. **Underline** what you think is important to remember. **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

<sup>11</sup> He is the One who gave some the gift to be apostles. He gave some the gift to be prophets. He gave some the gift of preaching the good news. And he gave some the gift to be pastors and teachers.

<sup>12</sup> He did it so that they might prepare God's people to serve. If they do, the body of Christ will be built up. <sup>13</sup> That will continue until we all become one in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son. Then we will be grown up in the faith. We will receive everything that Christ has for us. <sup>14</sup> We will no longer be babies in the faith. We won't be like ships tossed around by the waves. We won't be blown here and there by every new teaching. We won't be blown around by the cleverness and tricks of people who try to hide their evil plans. <sup>15</sup> Instead, we will speak the truth in love. We will grow up into Christ in every way. He is the Head. <sup>16</sup> He makes the whole body grow and build itself up in love. Under the

*(Study Guide continues on back panel...)*

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# Welcome to Wawasee!

## OUR MISSION

**We are sent** to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

## YOUR PATHWAY

If you call Wawasee Bible "home", we challenge you to pursue **three things**:

### 1. Gather



Show up *regularly* and gather with us for worship.

### 2. Grow



Don't just show up, *grow up* spiritually and connect in a growth ministry like Life Groups.

### 3. Go!



Go and serve somewhere. Contribute as much *or more than* you consume!

## Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

### Word Find for Romans 12:6-10 (NLT)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>6</sup>In his **grace**, God has **given** us **different gifts** for **doing certain things well**. So if God has **given** you the **ability** to **prophecy**, **speak** out with as **much faith** as God has **given** you. <sup>7</sup>If your **gift** is **serving others**, **serve** them **well**. If you are a **teacher**, **teach well**.

<sup>8</sup>If your **gift** is to **encourage others**, be **encouraging**. If it is **giving**, **give generously**. If God has **given** you **leadership ability**, **take the responsibility**

**seriously**. And if you have a **gift** for **showing kindness** to others, **do** it **gladly**. <sup>9</sup>Don't **just pretend** to **love others**. **Really love** them. **Hate** what is **wrong**. **Hold tightly** to what is good. <sup>10</sup>**Love each other** with genuine affection, and **take** delight in honoring **each other**.

G L A D L Y L O V E W R O N G  
T F B U B D I F F E R E N T T  
A A I O K I N D N E S S O I H  
K I L E A D E R S H I P S M P  
E T I G H T L Y N N D O I N G  
M H T B O R E A L L Y N T U I  
E A Y D G E N E R O U S L Y V  
Y T D G R A C E R T A I N S E  
W E L L F B O T H E R B T H N  
L A G I F T U H O L D I M O M  
U N K E S E R I O U S L Y W K  
N V D D U A A N J A P I T I L  
J U S T L C G G P R E T E N D  
M P R O P H E S Y N A Y A G S  
O K G I V E A C H Y K F C S B  
P M S S E R V E J M U C H T M

## life groups Study Guide (continued)

control of Christ, each part of the body does its work. It supports the other parts. In that way, the body is joined and held together. **EPHESIANS 4:11-16** (NIV)

- How could this passage help us realign using our gifts for the right purpose?
3. One of the first steps in understanding our gifts and abilities is to increase our self-awareness. Self-awareness is the ability to understand who we truly are and what God has made us to be. As you go through the verses below, write down principles that could help someone grow in self-awareness.

**Proverbs 20:5   Romans 12:3   Psalm 26:2   1 Timothy 4:16**

- What principles above do you need to work on the most?
  - One of the biggest ways to grow your self-awareness is being open to feedback from other people. Who, if anyone, is allowed to speak into your life?
  - How receptive would you say you are to others' feedback about you?
4. We live in a very individualistic society where depending on others can be seen as a weakness or looked down upon. Because of this, the idea of working together or being one "body" of Christ can feel somewhat foreign. What guidance does 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 give on being a united body of Christ?
    - What could happen if someone isn't playing their part?
    - How does this passage address diversity and unity occurring at the same time?

## Taking It Home

1. Use the following questions to help you focus on using your gifts:
  - What are a few of my strengths or gifts? Where am I most prone to use them? Least?
  - If you don't know your giftings, what friend, counselor, Growth Group leader, family member, pastor etc. could help you discover what your gifts are?
  - Are there any gifts, strengths or abilities you have that you'd like to be more intentional about using in the next few weeks??

## Prayer

As you close, take time to pray for each other. **Divide into separate groups of men and women** and pray for one another.

This week's Study Guide is adapted from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at [wawaseebible.com/beliefs](http://wawaseebible.com/beliefs). Learn more about the EFCA at [efca.org](http://efca.org).

## Wawasee Community Bible Church

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# ACTS

## EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, October 9, 2022



# PART 5



## Congratulations! You're Gifted!

**1 Cor. 12:1-31; Rom. 12:1-9; Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Pt. 4:10-11**



### We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you! **You can also access today's bulletin** using the same QR or link.