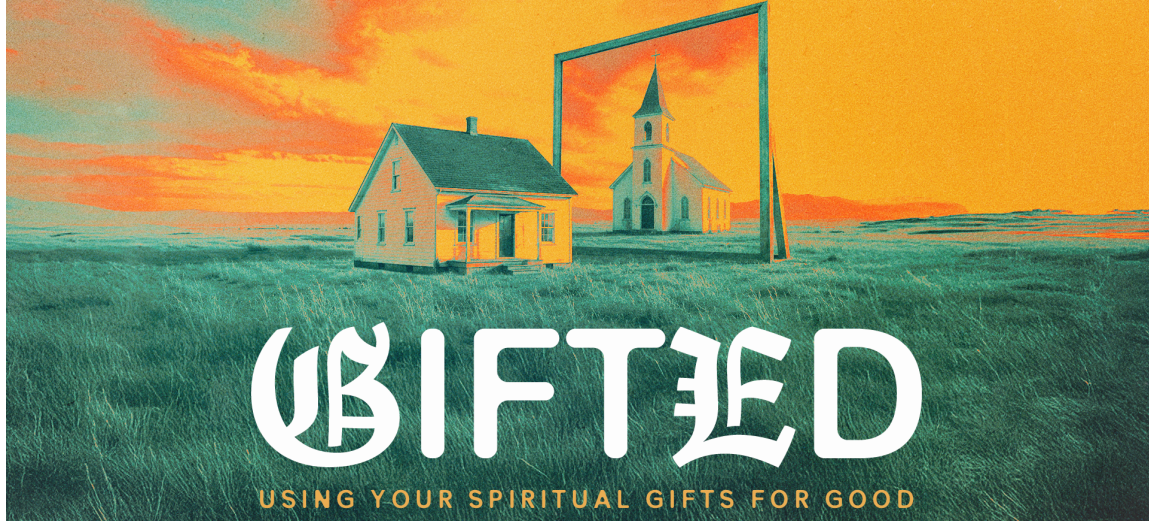




"Love Makes All the Difference" - August 30, 2026

Sermon by: Pastor Ruthie Seiders

Group Leader Notes

In this Sunday's message "Love Makes All the Difference," Pastor Ruthie Seiders explores 1 Corinthians 12–13 and reminds us that while every follower of Jesus has been given spiritual gifts, those gifts are meant to serve the common good, strengthen the church, and make Jesus' love visible in the world. No one is too young, too old, too busy, or too insignificant to be used by God. Whether through hospitality, encouragement, teaching, generosity, prayer, caregiving, or quiet acts of service, we all have an important role to play. When we use our gifts with patient, kind, selfless, and persevering agape love, God receives the glory.

Main Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:1–7, 12–31; 13:1–13

Group Discussion: Begin in prayer before reading and discussing the text.

1. **What spiritual gifts do you believe God has given you?** How have you seen those gifts benefit others rather than simply benefit yourself?
2. **Pastor Ruthie emphasized that our gifts are given "for the common good."** What are some practical ways you could use your gifts to serve and strengthen your church, family, workplace, or community?
3. Paul compares the church to a body where every part is important. **Have you ever felt like your contribution was insignificant—or been tempted to think you didn't need someone else's contribution?** What does this passage teach us about our need for one another?
4. **1 Corinthians 13 says that even great gifts accomplish nothing without love.** Which description of agape love—patient, kind, not self-seeking, forgiving, persevering, etc.—is most challenging for you to live out? Why?
5. **Pastor Ruthie challenged us to say, "I am a minister. This is who I am. This is what I do."** Where is God placing opportunities directly in front of you to use your gifts and make Jesus visible through love?

Let's Pray

https://youtu.be/SWkdGTFXUYc?si=EBu_TbFLWrB3hboL



Discover the joy of using your gifts in ways that bless others.

Have you ever wondered, "What are my gifts, and how do I use them?" Using our **Spiritual Gifts & Talents Discovery tool**, you won't just discover - or rediscover - your spiritual gifts; you'll get connected to practical ways you can apply them in our church community.

<https://www.grace.org/giftsandtalents>

Looking to Get Involved?

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Finding the right fit is easy: use the buttons and filters below to display current opportunities and connect with a team.

<https://www.grace.org/volunteer>