

spiritual adult

DISCIPLE ME

TRACK 1: DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS

UNITY IN DIVERSITY

ICEBREAKER: STAY WEIRD

Let's be honest – “normal” is wildly overrated. If we are honest, we are all a little weird. So, today, name one way you're wired differently than most people you know.

Maybe you feel things deeply. Maybe you love structure, while others live in chaos. Maybe you're the behind-the-scenes type, the big-picture thinker, the encourager, the problem-spotter, or the one who always asks *why*. When you think about how you're wired, what feels “weird” compared to everyone else?



STUDY: IF WE ARE THE BODY

The differences we just noticed, named, and laughed about aren't accidental - and they aren't distractions. They're clues. What feels *weird* or different about you is often the very place God intends to work through you for the sake of others. It's through our differences that God brings the church together. Unity in the church was never meant to look like everyone doing the same thing. It's not sameness - it's shared direction. Different roles, different gifts, one purpose.

READ Romans 12:4-5

- According to this passage, what does it mean for you to belong to the other members of the body, not just to yourself?
- Where might you be tempted to compare your role to others instead of faithfully using the gift God has given you for the good of the whole body?

When Paul describes the church as a body, he isn't aiming for poetic imagery - he's giving us a blueprint for maturity. A body only works because its parts are different. If everything were the same, nothing would function. God never intended uniformity. He designed diversity on purpose so that no one could grow, serve, or mature alone.

The body metaphor assumes difference, not duplication. The goal of spiritual maturity isn't self-expression or personal fulfillment. Your gift doesn't exist to prove your value; it finds its meaning when it's connected to others. When each part embraces its role, the whole body becomes stronger, healthier, and more influential together.

ACTIVITY: FIND YOUR S.H.A.P.E.

God has been uniquely shaping you through your gifts, passions, abilities, personality, and experiences - none of it by accident. This activity isn't about spotlighting you, but strengthening the body. As you explore S.H.A.P.E., notice where your life is positioned to serve others and where God may be inviting you to move from being influenced to becoming an influence.

S - Spiritual Gifts: What God has <i>supernaturally</i> empowered you to do for the good of others.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Which spiritual gifts do you most resonate with? (Consider our last conversation.)• Where have others already been helped by your obedience?
H - Heart (Passions & Burdens): What moves you emotionally? What problems can you not ignore?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What needs or injustices tend to bother you more than others?• When you imagine the church being healthier, what do you hope changes?
A - Abilities: Natural skills or learned competencies God can redeem and use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What skills do people regularly ask you to use?• What comes more naturally to you than it seems to for others?
P - Personality: How you're wired to engage people and situations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do you lead from the front or the side? Do you process externally or internally?• Do you thrive with people, systems, ideas, or care?
E - Experiences: The life events - good and hard - that God can use redemptively.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What experiences have shaped your compassion or wisdom?• Where has God met you in hardship that could help someone else?

CHALLENGE: ONE BODY – THREE CONVERSATIONS

Together, read **1 Corinthians 12:12–27** and notice how Paul describes the body as interconnected and strengthened through mutual care. Then identify three people in the body of Christ who are gifted differently from you, bringing different strengths and gifts to the body. Make a concrete plan before you leave to thank and encourage them this week. Next time, share how those conversations went, trusting that small acts of faithfulness strengthen the body.