

Getting Started

1. What is something that you are good at, but not great at?
2. What is something you wish you were great at?
3. Why do we typically only want to use our gifts of abundance instead of our minor gifts?
4. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's sermon did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.

Digging Deeper

5. Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 62:

Q. Why can't our good works be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of our righteousness?

A. Because the righteousness which can pass God's judgment must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law.¹ But even our best works in this life are imperfect and stained with sin.²

¹ Rom. 3:20; Gal. 3:10 (Deut. 27:26) ² Isa. 64:6

Do we give to God to prove we are worthy or to show our thankfulness?

6. Faith is defined in Hebrews 11:1. Did the poor widow give out of faith? Did she give for another reason?
7. Read Isaiah 33:15-17. These verses talk about righteousness and the gift we receive if we are faithful. What is that gift?
8. Read Matthew 19:23-30. What should we as Christians understand about money and the kingdom of God?

Application

9. It is easy to see the gifts in others and how they use them to serve the Lord. You have gifts as well. In what ways can you use your minor gifts to serve God?

Bible Reading Questions

March 21 – Deuteronomy 30-31 – If God knows that the Jews will rebel, why does he let them enter the Promised Land?

March 22 – Deuteronomy 32-34; Psalm 91 – You could almost say Deuteronomy is Moses' last proclamation/warning to the people of Israel. What stood out to you?

March 23 – Joshua 1-4 – Joshua was given more and more responsibility and had been mentored before he became the leader of the Israelites. Do we do this well in the church today? How could we do it better?

March 24 – Joshua 5-8 – Achan knows God's power and, along with Israel, has witnessed God's divine wisdom. Why does he sin against God knowing full well that God will find him out? This type of question pops up often when reading the Old Testament, but it helps us to see how easy we sin against God.

March 25 – Joshua 9-11 – We read of another supernatural event, the sun standing still. Do you struggle to understand how it's possible that the sun could stand still, the Red Sea could be parted or a bush could burn without being consumed? Or do you trust that all things are possible with God?

March 26 – Joshua 12-15 – It took a long time for God to fulfill his promise to Caleb, but he fulfilled it. Do you trust that God will fulfill his promises to you?

March 27 – Joshua 16-18 – Why did Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, get an inheritance?

Ross Community Reformed Church Pastor Shawn Gerbers · March 20th, 2016

The Gospel According to Luke

“Glory and Gain”

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, “Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

Luke 21:1-4

- **Righteousness is _____ God for his _____ and not our _____.**

- _____ **we give to God is more important than** _____ **we give.**

Topics: Service, giving, righteousness