

## Getting Started

1. In what ways does our congregation talk and reflect on the work we do?
2. What gifts and skills do you have that you are willing to make available for the reconciling work of the kingdom?
3. How can we connect people with particular skills that would benefit our community with those in our community?
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 86:

**Q. Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?**

A. Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits,<sup>1</sup> so that he may be praised through us,<sup>2</sup> so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits,<sup>3</sup> and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Rom. 6:13; 12:1-2; 1 Pet. 2:5-10   <sup>2</sup> Matt. 5:16; 1 Cor. 6:19-20   <sup>3</sup> Matt. 7:17-18; Gal. 5:22-24; 2 Pet. 1:10-11   <sup>4</sup> Matt. 5:14-16; Rom. 14:17-19; 1 Pet. 2:12; 3:1-2

Our good works cannot earn us God's grace, but we must still do good work. Why?

6. Read Romans 12:3-8. We read about the many gifts that God has given to his people. In 1 Corinthians 12:7 we read that these gifts are given for the common good. What does that mean? How are you using your gifts?
7. 1 Corinthians 12:8-10 & 28 lists some gifts that the Spirit gives, and more are listed in Romans 12:6-8. Why are these gifts listed like this? Is it an exhaustive list?
8. Hebrew 2:8 tells us why God has given the gifts and 1 Cor. 12:11 affirms the why. If our church is lacking in a gift, is it acceptable to pray for that gift to be granted?

## Application

9. Not all work is good work. What work are you doing that is meaningless, inhibiting or exploitive? How can move from that type of work to good work which is meaningful, liberating and ethical?

## Bible Reading Questions

May 2 – Psalm 133 – How can we as the Church dwell together in unity?

May 3 – Psalms 106-107 – Both of these Psalms talk about the people of God walking away from God. Then they cry out to him and he redeems them, why would God do that?

May 4 – 1 Chronicles 13-16 – Why did God kill Uzzah? Why does it matter whose responsibility it is to carry the ark?

May 5 – Psalms 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47, 68 – The first 2 psalms set the tone for the book of Psalms, what are they saying? We also see a specific theme in these Psalms, who are they referring to?

May 6 – Psalms 89, 96, 100-101, 105, 132 – In Psalm 132 when David says he will find a home for the Lord. What does he mean?

May 7 – 2 Samuel 6-7; 1 Chronicles 17 – Why would God physically dwell in a place?

May 8 – Psalms 25, 29, 33, 36, 39 – These Psalms speak of the power of God. Do you stand in awe of his power?

## Ross Community Reformed Church

Pastor Shawn Gerbers · May 1st, 2016

### Slow Church

#### “Good Work”

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; **5**and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; **6**and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.  
1 Corinthians 12:4-7

- All \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ belong to God.
- Work is the \_\_\_\_\_ to answer with \_\_\_\_\_ God’s call to be God’s \_\_\_\_\_ in God’s \_\_\_\_\_.
- Is the \_\_\_\_\_ I am doing good \_\_\_\_\_?
  - Is my work meaningless, inhibiting and exploitive (it puts the system before the person and lays waste to the earth)?
  - Is my work meaningful, liberating and ethical?

Topics: Good work, gifts & talents