

Session 2 Keynote:

Understanding Your Unique Charisms and Gifts in Ministry

Share a story about gifts. Maybe one about not utilizing a gift or a unique gift you received or gave.

Everyone loves a good gift.

And God intentionally created you with gifts meant to build up the Church and lead others closer to Him.

Have you ever looked at another leader and thought:

'I could never do ministry like them.'

'I'm not gifted enough.'

'I don't know what I bring to the team.'"

Comparison blinds us to the gifts God already gave us.

Every Person Has a Role in the Mission

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-12 from a physical Bible.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;
there are different forms of service but the same Lord;
there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.
To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.
To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit;
to another faith by the same Spirit; to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit;
to another mighty deeds; to another prophecy; to another discernment of spirits; to another varieties of tongues; to another interpretation of tongues.
But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.
As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ."

Not everyone is meant to teach from a stage.

Some lead through hospitality.

Some through listening.

Some through administration or prayer.

Hidden gifts are still holy gifts.

The Kingdom of God is built just as much by faithful listeners as by public speakers.

What Are Charisms?

Charisms are gifts given by the Holy Spirit for the building up of the Church.

Encouragement, leadership, teaching, hospitality, wisdom, service, music, mercy, clarify. These are all gifts.

Talents become powerful when surrendered to God's mission.

Discovering Your Gifts

So how do you know what gifts you have?

Let me ask you, what gives you energy?
What parts of ministry make you come alive?

What do others affirm in you?

You can ask trusted people: "What strengths do you see in me?"

Sometimes you discover your gifts by serving before you fully understand them.

The Danger of Comparison

As a reminder, we're all human. And because of that we often get caught in the comparison trap.

But, comparing gifts creates insecurity or pride.

Ministry is collaborative, not competitive.

Different gifts reach different teens.

This is the beauty of a Core Team. Everyone brings their own gifts and talents. You do not want everyone to have the same gifts.

God does not need clones.

He wants faithful disciples.

Stewarding Your Gifts Well

Remember that we need to steward the gifts we have received well.

Grow your gifts intentionally.

Stay humble.

Use gifts to serve, not to be noticed.

Your gifts are not about spotlight. They are about service.

The Church doesn't need volunteers who have every gift, it needs people who are willing to offer the gifts God has already placed within them. Some Core members lead from the front, some encourage quietly behind the scenes, some listen deeply, organize faithfully, pray constantly, or show up with consistency and joy. None of those gifts are small when they are surrendered to the Lord.

God did not create you by accident, and He did not call you into ministry empty-handed. So don't compare your gifts to someone else's. Simply ask God for the courage to use what He has given you with generosity, humility, and love. Because when ordinary people offer their gifts to God, He does extraordinary things through them.