

Introduction: What field is God calling you to walk in?

The Premise:

Just as different species of plants thrive in certain places and not others, so we as Christ followers have our greatest impact when we discover our “best fit” in the body of Christ.

The Principle: The Law of Liberation

High impact churches train their members to discover and deploy their spiritual gift and passions both within and outside the church.

The Text:

³ For by the grace given me I say to everyone of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. ⁴Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.”

Romans 12:3-8 (NASB)

The Implications:

1. God has made and gifted you to fulfill a specific purpose in His Kingdom.
(Ephesians 2:10)

2. Gifts are given by God's grace to align you with the purpose for which you were created.
(1 Corinthians 12:11)

3. Every spiritual gift embodies:
 - Ability
 - Qualification
 - Strength
 - Responsibility

4. We are commanded to focus our primary energy around the areas we are gifted to serve.

5. Ministries need to be birthed and staffed by people gifted for the task, not to maintain or run programs.

6. When we do not have a leader gifted for the task, with a team to support him/her, we will not start or continue a ministry.

7. The role of pastors / leaders / staff is not to do the ministry, but to...
 - Help every believer discover and deploy their spiritual gift.
 - Recruit and unleash gifted people to fulfill their God-given dreams and passions within and outside the church.
 - Create systems and structures that make it easy for people to get involved in ministry.
 - Provide ongoing training and help in developing their gifts, skills, and ministry.

Application / Discussion Questions:

1. What is your primary spiritual gift?
2. Why is it important to discover your spiritual DNA (gifting and passions)?
3. What needs in this community do we at Venture Christian Church need to fulfill?
4. What are you good at and enjoy doing?
5. Would you be willing to take the 6-week plunge?