

- 7) How are different spiritual gifts related to each other?

- 8) What does Paul talk about immediately following the Romans and Corinthians passages? Why? What is the potential problem(s) when gifts are over-emphasized? What was the biggest problem in the Corinthian church? (Hint: It was the first problem Paul wrote about in this letter.)

CONCLUSION: If we are to function as the Body of Christ, we are interdependent on each other's use of individual spiritual gifts. In other words, we (Riverside) cannot be a church unless every follower of Christ exercises their unique spiritual gifts.

Figuring out how God has shaped you for ministry in the Church is part of the Christian journey. There are multiple factors involved, which are nicely summarized by the following acrostic developed by purpose-driven Rick Warren at Saddleback Church.

Spiritual Gifts

Hear

Abilities

Personality

Experiences

Next week, we will use a spiritual gifts assessment tool to help identify your gifts. We will also discuss specific gifts and their use in the Church. Sometime in the future we will also do personality profiles. There are some questions below to help you think through your heart's desires, abilities and experiences prior to next week.

Pray for God, through the His Spirit, to reveal and/or confirm the spiritual gifts that have been given to you.

Homework: Spend some time on your own this week considering the questions below. It will be most beneficial to write down answers on additional sheets of paper or in a journal.

- 1) What are some things you've always done well, as child, teenager, early adulthood, etc.?
- 2) What are some things you've always enjoyed doing?
- 3) What do other people say you do well? What do they consistently compliment you on?
- 4) If you were guaranteed success, and were not limited by resources, what would you do?
- 5) What would you like to be remembered for after you die?
- 6) What have been your most meaningful past...spiritual experiences? ...painful experiences (coupled with learning or growth)? ...educational experiences (favorite subjects)? ...ministry experiences?