

"The Equipped Church" Small Group Questions For the week of May 22, 2022

Icebreaker:

What was the best (or most unique) job you ever had? What was the worst job you ever had?

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Did anything in particular stand out to you in the history of the rise of the clergy and the diminishing of the laity in the church?
- 2. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7. Who, in the church, is gifted for ministry? Do you know what your spiritual gift(s) is/are?*

 If you do, what is it?

How are you using it in ministry and service?

If you do not know what your spiritual gift is, have you ordered the test? (If a number of you do not know what your spiritual gift is, consider ordering the test and then set a time for everyone to discuss the test and what their gift is.)

3. Read Ephesians 4:11-12. What is the Biblical job description of pastors?

Do you think most Christians know this?

Do you think most people in the church want this to be their pastor's primary job/task? Explain your answer.

4. What does a consumer faith/Christianity look like?

What does a spectator in the church look like?

Have you ever been either or both of these?

How do we make sure these don't describe us or the people in our church?

*There is a difference between a natural gift (something we are born with) and a spiritual gift (something Jesus gives only to believers). Natural gifts can be used both in and outside of the church – like singing, playing an instrument, etc. But a spiritual gift is unique and is used for the work of the gospel in and outside the church. They are listed in Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 & 27-30; Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Peter 4:8-11.