Week 06 Small group Gifted for service

TRANSFORMED (LIFE

WEEK SIX – GIFTED FOR HIS SERVICE

'For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus. I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.'

EPHESIANS 3:1–13

WELCOME: WHAT ARE WE GOOD AT?

Everyone take a piece of paper. Write your name at the top of the paper. At the bottom write what you are good at, then fold it over just above the writing so that the next person cannot see what was written. Now pass it to the person on your left. They will now write on the bottom of the page, just above the fold, what they think you are good at (e.g., *'he is a good listener'*, *'she communicates well'*, *'his prayers seem powerful'*, *'she is encouraging'*, etc). Pass it on until your sheet gets back to you. Then read them out.

Check out how the group got on memorising the verse from last week.

Is there anything anyone wants to share on reflection of last week's study?

MEMORY VERSE

'I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.' (Ephesians 3:7)

Pray before watching this week's video.

WATCH THE VIDEO

'I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you.' (Ephesians 3:1–2)

You have a w	vithin the Church	[purpose, place, function, calling, meaning]
You discover your gifts by		[praying, doing, trying, asking]
You have a ir	n the world	[purpose, place, function, calling, meaning]

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Fill in the blanks below. The missing words/phrases and be found in the *Transformed Life* devotional.

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B	in Prayer
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S the Story

'I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power.' (3:7)

WORD

Read Ephesians 3:1–2. What do you think Paul means by the particular phrase 'the administration of God's grace?'

How do we discover our God-given gifts and call? (*revelation, consultation, experimentation*) Does anyone in the group have a story about how they discovered their gifts in one of these ways?

How are you doing in discovering your ministry within the church? How could you serve more wholeheartedly? What's your next step?

We are here to make a difference in the Church and in the world. What differences do you think God's people have made and continue to make to society?

What does the B.L.E.S.S. acronym stand for? [Begin in prayer; Listen; Eat; Serve; Share the story]

Since first hearing about B.L.E.S.S., how has it helped shape your connection and influence with those around you? Where do you need to grow?

WORSHIP

We follow a Saviour who came not to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.

WITNESS

Pray in twos and threes for people you want to B.L.E.S.S. over the next week.

Read this week's memory verse:

'I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of His power.' (Ephesians 3:7)

ACTION STEPS

Look at the list of declarations on Day 50 under Section 3, "Purpose".

Consider how your individual gifts can be used as a witness and to serve those at church and in the world.