



IMAGINE IF...

Ready, Set, Go

#NPIImagine

Week 4
4 of 4
August 28, 2016

Bottom Line: Each of us is a part of the one body of Christ.

Icebreaker: What is something about you that you consider to be unique?

Key Verse: *The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.*
1 Corinthians 12:21-26

Have you ever been in a group where you felt like you didn't fit in or there wasn't a place to you? Did you ever feel that you didn't have any gifts or talents that were useful? All of us have felt this way at some point, but none of us should feel that way in the community of faith.

As we've talked through this series, everybody has a gift and every gift matters. Paul often described this reality through the illustration of the human body. Like our bodies function well when every part is involved, the body of Christ functions best when all its parts work together. All gifts are needed, and all people are needed. While some people find being a role player on a team or at work is a bad thing, all of us are role players in the kingdom of God.

God has made each one of us with different gifts, talents, interests, experiences, and desires to make His name known. Practically this gives us a wider reach, both in the community of faith and in the outside world. Your experiences and gifts might resonate with someone more than another person, and vice versa. To do the ministry Christ has called us to at NewPointe, we need everybody to be involved and working together. When one part is honored, all are honored – and Christ is honored in us.

THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on Dwight's message, what stood out to you?

Dwight gave us seven steps to follow:

- Develop clear vision
- Dedicate your body
- Develop a clean mind
- Eliminate distractions
- Evaluate your strengths
- Cooperate with others
- Activate your gifts

What did Paul mean when he talked about the honor of the body of Christ? How do we honor God in the body?

How are we called to suffer and rejoice with one another? What does that look like in this group?

LOOK IT OVER <<<

What is one area in which you are especially weak? How does this weakness help you appreciate the strengths of others and the goodness of God?

In what ways does a smaller group of believers provide a unique platform to express our individual gifts?

What are some things that distract you from serving in the way that God has called you? What measures are you taking to eliminate these distractions?

Where will you use your gifts in the body of Christ? How does using your gifts allow you to grow?

What are the areas of greatest need for service on your campus? Do any of your gifts fulfill this need?

NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together as a group:

1. Think of ways that we can value all the gifts, even in this smaller group within our church. How do the gifts we have work together for the health of this group and the glory of God in the world?
2. Spend a few moments in prayer thanking God for making you the person He has made you. Find your identity, purpose, and rest in Him. Ask Him to help us see and appreciate all the different ways He has gifted us and understand how each of those ways can make an eternal difference in the kingdom of God. Pray that when God looks at NewPointe, He would find a well-functioning body that values every member.

EVALUATION/ACTION **Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ**

Bottom Line: Each of us is a part of the one body of Christ.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at newpointe.org/daily:

Day 1: Romans 12:1

Day 2: Romans 12:2

Day 3: Romans 12:3

Day 4: Romans 12:4-5

Day 5: Romans 12:6

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.

(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)