

INTRO

As we begin this series on our gifts, passions, and stories, take some time to share with each other the spiritual gifts you may already know about yourself as well as the things you are passionate about.

Keep these in mind as we process over the next few weeks, but also be open to learning new things about yourself.

If you don't know your gifts, or haven't thought through your areas of passion, or how your story influences your impact, share what you are excited about as you begin this journey!

IDEA 1

We are each created to play a unique role in bringing peace to our city. Our gifts, passions, and stories are some of the ways that we can bring peace.

Read Ephesians 1:22–23

22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. 23 And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

What does it mean that the church is the body of Christ?

What does it mean for you personally?

How does Jesus fill all things, everywhere, with himself?

IDEA 2

He chooses to use us to represent Him. We are called His image bearers. At creation this was the calling and accompanying authority He gave Adam and Eve—"multiply and fill the earth and take my divine presence with you."

What are some of the ways we can image Christ to those around us?

What do you find reassuring about the collective "we"—that we don't do this alone?

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Take some time in your group to do a devotional reading of Ephesians 2:10. Have someone read the verse out loud three times with pauses to process the following prompts, individually. Then, share together as a group

“We are God’s masterpiece. He created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

Prepare: Relax and invite Holy Spirit to guide your thinking and feeling.

1. Read the verse slowly and carefully. What words or ideas draw my attention?
2. Read the verse again. How does this word/idea relate to my life today?
3. Respond: Read the verse one final time. What would I like to say to God in response?

Rest: Sit and rest in God’s presence. Allow space for the words and reflections from this time to sink deeply into your soul.

Encourage your group to memorize Ephesians 2:10 together over the course of this sermon series.

NEXT STEPS

In order to get the most out of this sermon series and your Life Group discussions, you will need to take the GPS assessment.

The GPS assessment is a free online assessment that explores your gifts, passions, and story and how they intersect to empower you to live on mission: to carry the peace, power, and presence of Christ everywhere you step.

Scan the QR code below to be directed towards taking the assessment. Make sure to watch the instructional video before you start the assessment (you can also access through the Salem Alliance website):

