Equipping Quotes—A Prayer Guide for Today

Use this guide with your Equipping Prayer Team. Send out one every week or every other week, along with specific requests to pray for those taking the <u>Your Unique Design</u> class, doing the <u>God. Gifts. You. workbook</u> study, participating in a new members class, or who have just completed <u>the spiritual gifts assessment</u>.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

God has created me to do him some definite service.

He has committed some work to me

Which he has not committed to another...

I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

He has not created me for naught. I shall do good—I shall do his work.

[John Henry Newman prayer]

Pray that we would each discover that work which God has committed to us.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

The other thing the enemy doesn't want you to think about is this: no one else can take your place in the world. The combination of God at work in you is a one-of-a kind phenomenon. It's like a unique chemical reaction...never before

discovered...providing a cure for an incurable disease. And when you don't use your gifts as only you can use them, there's a yawning gap inside of you because you were shaped for God's service and an empty place in the world somewhere that you were meant to fill. [Pastor Kim Engleman]

Pray that we would each seek God's guidance and direction in using our gifts to serve others and draw them closer to Him.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

It's not about serving occasionally; it's about becoming a servant. If I serve occasionally, I can be in control. I can do it when I think someone is watching...can do it for applause. To become a servant means dying to all that. That's the

kingdom...that's life!...When a church is filled with people who are serving on the basis of how God has gifted them, with a servanthood spirit, greater honor given to the parts of the body that aren't usually, there's nothing like that. [Servanthood: Called Together, John Ortberg]

Pray that we would become servants, empowered by God's Spirit, serving in the way that we are each gifted and called by God to engage in the world.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

A church will be the kind of place God intended it to be when everyone of us who follows Christ knows our gifts and lives out of our gifts. There are lots of things in your spiritual life that will connect you to God: personal devotions, worship, nature, small groups, fellowship. But few things will connect you to God, few things have the capacity for you to understand the grace and the power of God than figuring out what your spiritual gift is and using it. [Servanthood: You Have a Gift Part 1, Nancy Ortberg] Pray that all at [our church name] would follow Jesus, know our gifts, and live/serve out of our gifts—in ways that cause growth and connection, to God and to one another.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

God's vision for the church—to be a vibrant, magnetic, catalytic, irresistible force in the world is only true to the degree that we take seriously finding out what our spiritual gifts are and serving in those regards. [Servanthood: You Have a Gift Part 2, Nancy Ortberg]

Pray that [our church name], by living out God's vision for the church, would increasingly become a vibrant, magnetic, catalytic, irresistible force in our community.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

Our mission is to be kingdom bearers...One of the saddest things is when the church forgets its calling and starts to focus inwardly on itself. [Streams of Life: The Church on Monday Morning, John Ortberg]

Pray that we be Jesus incarnate everywhere we are. May we and [our church name] truly make a Jesus difference in our community.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

To St. Paul, the Church of Christ does not appear as some administrative organization, but as a living, organic ensemble of gifts, charisms, and services. The Holy Spirit is given to all Christians and to each one in particular; and he in turn gives to each and every one gifts and charisms "which differ according to the grace bestowed upon us" (Romans 12:6). [Leon Joseph Cardinal Suenens] Pray that [our church name] would increasingly be a "living, organic ensemble of gifts, charisms, and services"—examples of grace in our community.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

Church leaders need to tell the flock that [spiritual] gift are available to them. God not only commissions his followers by giving them a task or calling: God also empowers them with the spiritual gifts they need to carry out that calling. [K. T. Ware] Pray for our leadership as they lead us in discovering our calling and using our gifts. Pray that more at [our church name] and partner churches would take <u>the spiritual gifts assessment</u> to learn their gifts.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

The gifts are given to each person individually, but they are given because that person is a part of a people. They are given for that people, the Body of believers in Christ, because they are part of a redeemed creation—the Kingdom of God. [Anon.]

Pray that we would be a united, loving, serving Body of Christ that exhibits the Kingdom of God to our community.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

Fellowship among the spiritually-gifted people exists because of their common possession of the one gift, Jesus Christ. Christ himself is the one who really "has" the spiritual gifts...As head of the Body, he is the source and bearer of all spiritual gifts. They function at his behest. [Edmund Schlink]

Pray that we would always know, believe, and act as if Christ is the head of [our church name]—that He is the source of our gifts, and may we function as He intends.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve...You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love. [Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.]

Pray that we would be humble servants who model Jesus' example. Pray that His Spirit would fill us with the grace and love we need to serve those around us well.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in." Hungry not only for bread—but hungry for love. Naked not only for clothing—but naked for human dignity and respect. Homeless not only for want of a room of bricks—but homeless because of rejection. [Mother Teresa] Pray that we will be people who extend love, compassion, mercy, respect, dignity and practical assistance to those in need.

This week, pray the following for all of [our church name]:

I expect to pass through this world but once; any good thing therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again. [Stephen Grellet, Quaker Missionary] Pray that we would not defer nor neglect the good and kind things God is calling us to do today.

For more information about implementing a thriving equipping culture at your church, download the free guide or contact Shirley Giles Davis.