**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 1: Prepared with Purpose**

Review the video for this session.

**Engage**

Read [Acts 8:26–40](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ac8.26-40).

**Consider**

The story of Philip and the Ethiopian is fascinating. It’s full of obedience and miracles. However, there’s one small detail that can get overlooked. Philip was prepared for the way God would work through him.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What did Philip do in this passage? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What type of preparation do you think Philip had done before the angel came and told him to go south? |

**Reflect**

Before you ever find yourself in a big moment like Philip was, you need to be prepared. Preparing is a lifestyle. It’s not like cramming for a big test the night before. Preparing is a consistent daily decision. You fill your mind with Scripture. You fill your heart with prayer and worship. Then one day, at the right Spirit-guided moment, that preparation pays off in a major way.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What are some things you can consistently do to start preparing yourself for God to do something miraculous through your life? |

**Activate**

Think back to when you were seeking like the Ethiopian official. Call, text, or write a thank you to one person who shared Jesus with you. Let them know that God used them to lead you into a personal relationship with Jesus.

**Pray**

Father God, I want to be prepared for any and every situation. I want my preparation to make room for You to use me for Your purposes. I commit today to a lifestyle of spiritual preparation. Help my mind and help my memory. Help me to trust Your Spirit’s timing for my life. I love You, and I’m honored to serve. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 2: Filled to Fulfill**

**Engage**

Read [Acts 6:1–7](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ac6.1-7).

**Consider**

Notice Philip, who we read about with the Ethiopian, was among a group selected to serve food to the other believers. Philip was not an apostle, he was not a pastor, and he was not a prophet. Part of Philip’s service to the church was serving food, yet God used him powerfully.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What kind of people were selected for the responsibility of serving food? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Why do you think it was important that they were filled with the Holy Spirit? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What can you learn from this passage to apply to your own life? |

**Reflect**

The fact that these nonpastoral leaders were expected to be full of the Spirit teaches us that being full of the Spirit is vital. This wasn’t only an expectation for those preaching and teaching, but also for others who desired to fulfill God’s purpose in their life. This passage reminds us that anyone can be used for God’s purposes, not just full-time church leaders.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What evidence is there in your life that you’re living full of the Holy Spirit? |

**Activate**

Since anyone can be used for God’s purposes, and you fit the category of anyone, find a way to share your testimony. You might digitally connect or talk with a friend who doesn’t know Jesus. Share how God has changed your life. If people respond, use this as an opportunity to keep the conversation going with them about the good news of Jesus.

**Pray**

Jesus, I know You can use me for Your purposes. I want to be full of the Spirit like Philip, so I can be fully available and ready for whatever You have planned. Use my life for Your glory and teach me how to have a Spirit-led life. I’m willing to do things that may not seem like a big deal to others, and I’m willing to leap at the opportunity to share Your good news. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 3: Superstars?**

**Engage**

Read [Romans 12:4–18](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ro12.4-18).

**Consider**

The Lord isn’t interested in creating superstar Christians. He is building His Church, and He wants to use everyone to accomplish this task. Every believer has gifts and talents that God will use for the good of others.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What are the gifts mentioned in these verses? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Based on what you read, how do you think God wants us to use our gifts? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Although not gifts, how do the instructions in verses [9–18](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ro12.9-18) strengthen the Church? |

**Reflect**

You are a part of Jesus’ Church—a part of the Body. You have something to offer to help the Church work at its best.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Of the instructions listed in verses [9–18](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Ro12.9-18), which ones do you feel you’re currently living out? |

**Activate**

Take your journal and make a list of the gifts in this passage that you see in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you. Beside each, write out a way you can start using that gift more consistently for the good of the church and the world.

**Pray**

Lord, I know You have given me gifts. I surrender those to You now. I know You see me as an important part of Your Church. Please help me to do my part for the good of my fellow Christians and for the benefit of the world. I choose today to release my life to Your gifts. Thank You for including me in Your plan. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 4: Use What You’ve Been Given**

**Engage**

Read [Matthew 25:14–30](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt25.14-30).

**Consider**

It’s good to remember that what you’ve read is a parable told by Jesus. It likely didn’t happen. Instead, it’s a story Jesus used to illustrate what His Kingdom is like. As you think about it, focus less on the tone and attitude of the master and more on what the servants did or didn’t do.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What did each servant do with what they had been given? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Why do you think each servant was given a different amount? Why is that important? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**How would you explain verse [29](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Mt25.29) to someone? |

**Reflect**

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Are you using what you’ve been given by God effectively? Why or why not? |

**Activate**

In the Day 3 devotion, you were encouraged to make a list of your gifts. How have you used your gifts for God this week? If you didn’t have a chance to use them yet, make a plan to do so now.

**Pray**

Jesus, I want to be faithful with what You’ve given me. I don’t want to waste or squander these precious talents You have invested in my life. Thank You, that if I am faithful with what You have given me, You will give me even more. I also choose today to not compare myself with others. I only need to be faithful with what I have been entrusted by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Learn on Your Own**

**Day 5: Body Parts**

**Engage**

Read [1 Corinthians 12:12–30](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.1Co12.12-30).

**Consider**

We’re returning to the idea of the Church being compared to the parts of a body. Certainly, this is a passage about spiritual gifts and the Holy Spirit equipping us for ministry. However, it’s equally a passage about the importance of honoring and respecting one another as fellow believers.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What do we learn in verses [25–26](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.1Co12.25-26)? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Have you ever experienced a situation where Christians lacked harmony (getting along and working together)? Why do you think that happened? What was the result? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Why do you think Paul, the writer of this book, felt it was important to talk about harmony in the same passage where he wrote about spiritual gifts? |

**Reflect**

Every believer has the responsibility to contribute to harmony. God expects us to honor, respect, and celebrate other believers.

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**What are some steps you can take to contribute to creating harmony? |

|  |
| --- |
| **QUESTION**Look at verse [22](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.1Co12.22) again. Why do you think those who appear to be weak or less important actually are most necessary? |

**Activate**

This one could be a little uncomfortable. If you have a strained relationship with someone in your youth group, this is the time to make it right. Go to them and create harmony. If that doesn’t apply to you, then intentionally show gratitude to someone in your group who is doing a great job.

**Pray**

God, we are part of Your Church, and I know You place a high value on harmony and unity. I want to be a person who helps create unity, not a person who harms unity. I repent to You if I have been guilty of disrupting harmony. Teach me to love my fellow brothers and sisters in a way that honors You. Amen.

.