



Deeper Application Message Guide

“Captive - Part 5”

Speaker: Pastor Jeff Love

Week of July 25, 2010

Getting Started

- 1) Share with the group an area of serving you have thought about helping with but haven't . Why haven't you?
 - a) Or, think of a time when you—*stalled* at serving. What finally made you take the leap? Share with the group how God has blessed you through that service.

- 2) The church is a the body of Christ, and every single on of us is a part of that body. If any one part of that body is not functioning properly, than the church cannot function properly. Everyone has different gifts, and each is equally important and essential to meeting the needs of the church, thereby allowing the church to meet the needs of people. Every Christian needs to find his/her gift(s) and then apply those gifts to meet the needs of the church.
 - a) What areas of serving do you—*put on a pedestal* or think—I wish I could do that?

Into the Bible

- 3) Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26
Remember—we all need each other—God's designed us to fit together like a big jigsaw puzzle. We can't present the big picture to the world if pieces are missing!
 - a) What is an area of service you see as less important (be honest)? Why do we view some areas as more important than others?

- 4) Read **Romans 12: 1-5**
What does it mean to—offer your bodies as living sacrifices? How does this affect your view of serving?

- 5) Read **1 Peter 4:1-11**
Does our past sins have any impact on our current ability to serve?
 - a) Review **verses 8-11**.
What do these passages tell us about the amount of effort we should put into using our gifts to serve?

Digging Deeper

- 6) It has been said that life is not a spectator sport. And sometimes *you have to get in the game*.
 - a) In the context of our spiritual lives, serving the church and the ministry of God with our talents and gifts is one of the best ways to grow and connect.

Are you currently using your gifts to serve the church? If not, what is stopping you?