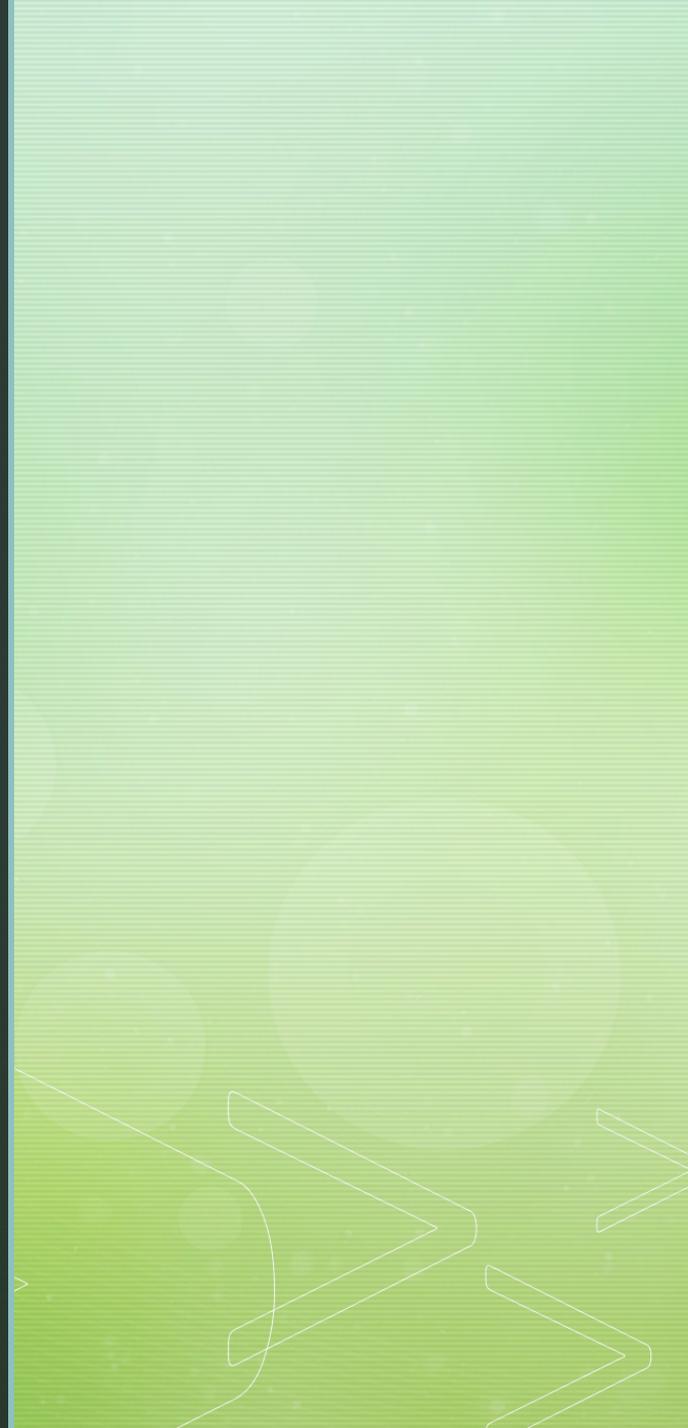


Walking in God's Design for Our Lives

Spiritual Gifts



Putting the "Understanding Spiritual Gifts Series" in Context of Our Lives

Who is Benjamin Kyle?

- Many Christians are Like Benjamin Kyle
 - They have no clue as to their real identity in Christ Jesus
 - Their destiny is unclear because they lack identity
 - They don't know who they are or what they are supposed to be doing!
 - Our identity comes from our Heavenly Father first
 - It is shaped by and affirmed by our community of faith as well
 - As we get to know God, He reveals our identity and destiny

Identity is Important!

- In a new national survey (2016), 18-24-year-olds report that having a clear purpose in life is a big part of being a "real" adult. The problem is, most young people don't feel like they've found that sense of purpose.
- More than 86% of young adults say that making decisions in line with their purpose makes them an adult
- 43% say they have a clear picture of what they want in life
- 36% say their career path aligns with life purpose
- Only 30% know why they are here.
- Christine B. Whelan, a professor at University of Wisconsin-Madison: "This [study] isn't good news: Coasting is existing, not thriving. The majority of young adults who say they don't have a clear picture of what they want in life also say they are existing but not thriving, while those with purpose more often say they are
 - *Christine B. Whelan, "Seek Your Purpose Before Your Paycheck," Acculturated blog (5-23-16)*

Three Priorities for ROL in 2017-2018 and beyond

1. Understanding Our Identity in Christ

2. Understanding Our Destiny in Christ

3. Learning to Walk in the Ways of God

Understanding Our Spiritual Gifts is a Key Part of Our Identity and Destiny in Christ

Do you know your spiritual gifts and talents?

- We learn from spending time alone with God in The Word and Prayer
- We learn from interaction with our faith community
- Through Prophetic Ministry
- 1 Timothy 1:18 Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,19 holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

Understanding Our Spiritual Gifts is a Key Part of Our Identity and Destiny in Christ

We need to stir up the gifts God has given us! Gifts need to be activated and fostered!

- 2 Timothy 2:6 For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, - NIV

Gifts that do not fit into the three main gift lists in 1 Cor. 12, Romans 12, or Eph. 4

Arguably, these can be called talents as well, but they are divine talents given by God that we develop.

- 1 Chronicles 25:1 David and the army commanders then appointed men from the families of Asaph, Heman, and Jeduthun to proclaim God's messages to the accompaniment of lyres, harps, and cymbals. Here is a list of their names and their work:
- ² From the sons of Asaph, there were Zaccur, Joseph, Nethaniah, and Asarelah. They worked under the direction of their father, Asaph, who proclaimed God's messages by the king's orders.

- **3** From the sons of Jeduthun, there were Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Shimei, Hashabiah, and Mattithiah, six in all. They worked under the direction of their father, Jeduthun, who proclaimed God's messages to the accompaniment of the lyre, offering thanks and praise to the Lord. **4** From the sons of Heman, there were Bukkiah, Mattaniah, Uzziel, Shubael, Jerimoth, Hananiah, Hanani, Eliathah, Giddalti, Romamti-ezer, Joshbekashah, Mallothi, Hothir, and Mahazioth. **5** All these were the sons of Heman, the king's seer, for God had honored him with fourteen sons and three daughters.
- **6** All these men were under the direction of their fathers as they made music at the house of the Lord. Their responsibilities included the playing of cymbals, harps, and lyres at the house of God. Asaph, Jeduthun, and Heman reported directly to the king. **7** They and their families were all trained in making music before the Lord, and each of them—288 in all—was an accomplished musician. **8** The musicians were appointed to their term of service by means of sacred lots, without regard to whether they were young or old, teacher or student. - NLT

Musicians, Psalmists, Poets, Prophets

These Musicians played a great role in Temple Worship and the Life of Israel

- They were paid during the reigns of David and Solomon
- They brought together spiritual gifts along with musical talents, psalmistry, and prophecy (Ryan Hall)
- Asaph is credited with Psalm 50, Psalm 73-83
- They also used music in a teaching context
- Music and Dance was part of the Life of Israel
- Miriam dancing before the Lord in Exodus 15 – The Song of Moses, History and teaching
- David dancing before the Lord as King

Gifts that do not fit into the three main gift lists in 1 Cor. 12, Romans 12, or Eph. 4

Artisans Empowered by God

- Exodus 31: Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. 3 And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all *manner of workmanship*, 4 to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, 5 in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all *manner of workmanship*.
- 6 “And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you:

Gifts that do not fit into the three main gift lists in 1 Cor. 12, Romans 12, or Eph. 4

Artisans Empowered by God

- Exodus 31:7 the tabernacle of meeting, the ark of the Testimony and the mercy seat that *is* on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle— 8 the table and its utensils, the pure *gold* lampstand with all its utensils, the altar of incense, 9 the altar of burnt offering with all its utensils, and the laver and its base— 10 the garments of ministry, the holy garments for Aaron the priest and the garments of his sons, to minister as priests, 11 and the anointing oil and sweet incense for the holy *place*. According to all that I have commanded you they shall do.”

Artisans Empowered by God in Exodus 7 alone

- Wood-carvers
- Goldsmiths
- Silversmiths
- Potters
- Weavers
- Seamstresses & Clothing Design
- Carpenters
- Perfumers/ Essential Oils
- Architects
- Lumber Industry woods
- Mining – providing metal elements
- Smelting
- Producing Dyes – Chemistry
Etc.

How does your identity in Christ affect your vocation?

- Story from France – “I am going to be a baker”
- Colossians 3:23 “Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. ²⁴ Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.” – NLT
- Who do you work for?
- I work for my Father
- Actually, our family is part of a large conglomerate
- We have branches in every part of the world
- In fact, one day, we are going to run the world
- See yourself as part of something greater!
- There is an eternal inheritance attached to your work here on earth!

What do you have in your hand?

- *He said to Moses – Give me your shepherd's staff*
- *He said to Esther – Give me your beauty, charm and intelligence*
- *He said to the Widow of Zarephath – Give me the little bit of flour and oil to make your last cake*
- *He said to Jeremiah – Give me your voice*
- *He said to the little boy on the hillside listening to Jesus – Give me you loaf of bread and few small fish*
- *He said to Tabitha in Acts 9 – Give me your sewing needle*
- *What is God saying to you?*



River of Life

COMMUNITY CHURCH

