The Gift of Thriving

How congregations can use their gifts to thrive in their local context.



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Thriving Requires Four Basic Things

- Knowing Your God
- Knowing Your Why
- Knowing Your Gifts
- Knowing Your Neighbors

Know Your God

Churches who are using their gifts to thrive are students of the Scripture.

What verses are meaningful to you?
What Biblical ideas resonate?
Which book is your favorite?

Why Scriptures Matter

- The Bible teaches us our reasons.
- The text should be our primary source.
- It is not a history book or a science book, but it IS a living document.
- Literal readings in your first language are different than the original languages.



Know Your Why

Who is God Calling *this* Church to be in *this* Time and in *this* Place?

Desert churches would not be called to collect coats for the snow.

Sun City has a different calling from Foothills.

Alfa y Omega has a different mission than Dios de Segunda Oportunidad.



Know Your Gifts



I Corinthians 12:4-7

4 There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; 5 and there
are different ministries and the same Lord; 6 and there are different
activities but the same God who produces all of them in
everyone. 7 A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for
the common good.
~ Common English Bible

Or …

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits.
~ The Message Paraphrase



Discovering Your Gifts

How does your church seek out its gifts?

Do you have any practices?

What could you do to find out?

Know Your Neighbors



Who actually lives where your church is?

What are their biggest needs?

Who does NOT live here?

What do they NOT need?

Any Questions?

Thank you

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