

DIGDEEPER

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Gifted for the Church by Dr. Richard Rogers

Ephesians 4:7-12 ([Listen Online](#))

THE BIG IDEA

God doesn't have a backup plan for making Jesus known. Plan A is the only plan, and Plan A is the church. God has gifted every single Christian with individual talents and abilities that are to be used in fulfilling this mission. And he has placed each believer in a local church on purpose. You are uniquely equipped with gifts from God for ministry in this church, and you must be actively engaged in using them.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, co-workers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, [tell us about it.](#))

What are some characteristics of a good team?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- How does your personal relationship with Jesus affect or influence your relationship with the church?
- What gifting, talent, or ability do you have that can be used to help others know Jesus? If you can't think of one, have you ever asked God to show you?
- Who in the church has served you by giving of their time, resources, or talents? How long has it been since you've told them thank you?
- How is unity currently challenged or threatened at University Heights?
- Take a moment to refresh yourself with our [One Three One](#) vision for healthy church membership. Which areas are you doing well, and which ones need some work?

GO DEEPER

- Sometimes our commitment to the local church can languish even as we try to grow in relationship with Jesus. Trip Lee helps us understand [why this simply won't work](#).
- Tim Challies [summarizes what we've learned](#) so far in Ephesians 4. We are one in Christ, and he has gifted each of us in unique ways to help maintain that unity.
- Once we understand the calling to serve the church with our gifts, what do we do next? Juan Sanchez offers [five ideas on how we can get started](#).
- A church united in a heart for service is a healthy church. Burk Parsons takes a look at [problems the absence of this united heart can cause](#) and how we can regain health.

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

As you saw in the Sanchez article above, there are a few basic steps you can take to start serving the church. Some of those are to know what the church needs and then just try something! You can do both of these on our website at uhbc.net/servethechurch. There's a link there to a form featuring a dropdown list of places and ways you can serve. When you click "Submit," a member of our ministry team is notified and will contact you about getting involved.