

Spiritual Gifts: Shepherd/Teacher
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Ephesians 4:11

1. The shepherd/teacher desires people to **experience** a full life.
(Psalm 23; John 10:10; 1 John 4:20-21)
 - They do this through compassion, empathy, support, nurture and coaching.
2. The shepherd/teacher **defends** the community against breakdown.
(Ecclesiastes 4:12; Psalm 133:1; 1 Corinthians 1:10; 1 Peter 3:8)
 - They do this through mediation, challenging, encouragement, teaching, modelled behaviour, and practical expressions of care.
3. The shepherd/teacher **paces** and **leads** at a rate people can go.
(Romans 12:2; 2 Thessalonians 3:5; Acts 2:38)
 - Transformation takes time.

Take Away

1. We are all asked to have compassion on one another
2. Spiritual Gifts Course

Take Home Questions

Consider the following questions. If none of them work, come up with some questions of your own that relate to Sunday's teaching and discuss. Please leave enough time for prayer.

Take time to review Sunday's teaching. What intrigued, puzzled or encouraged you?

Read Psalm 23 and make a list of the responsibilities of the shepherd. Do any of these responsibilities intrigue you? Do you think you might have the spiritual gift of a shepherd who teaches?

How would you communicate God's love, hope and truth to someone who just went through, or is going through, a difficult life event while remaining empathetic to their struggle, and attentive to their needs?

While remembering the list of responsibilities you made from Psalm 23, is there anything from that list that you could demonstrate to another person this week? Discuss ways of helping that become a reality.

Spend some time praying for people, our world, and the church.