



DJ Guide #8 Prep—Your Strengths: The Lord's Pleasure

"Talking points" for the person leading the Equipping Time; prepared by (doesn't need to be stated): Tim Dorsch

Objective

To grow in Christlikeness and to walk in the good works that God has prepared for us, it is profitable to identify and develop your strengths. This is best done in relationship with other believers. Your discipleship partners can help you see how you are wired and how that bears on your growth in Christ.

Motivation

As God's "workmanship," each believer has been divinely designed by him. He has made you in his image and given you strengths that uniquely reflect his glory. God has wired you in a specific manner to bless the church and restore a broken world.

Equipping

When your group meets, make sure to discuss the questions at the end of this guide. Go ahead and look at this guide so that we can go over the discussion together. Since one intent of this guide is to see new characteristics of one another, write down key insights about each other.

1. Regarding using your strengths, which biblical principle do you most need to keep in mind? **Ask, "What would be a few key points to hit upon or direct your guys to? Perhaps the idea that God's plan for your strengths may be different than your plans or aspirations. Perhaps Paul's admonition to be content, not disappointed, with how you have been divinely designed and equipped.**
2. Share at least five strengths with your discipleship group from questions A to C above. (After each person shares, affirm the strengths mentioned that you've seen firsthand. Are there any noteworthy strengths that your discipleship partner should add to his list?) **Men are perpetually under-encouraged. *This is such a great opportunity for your group to encourage one another. With each guy, emphasize how you've seen a specific strength in him. Ask the group if they'd like to add anything for each guy. Consider writing down key insights from what each person shares.***

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3. Share how you answered question D above regarding how you might *develop* or further *use* your strengths. (After each person shares, suggest any ideas for your discipleship partner to consider.) **Camp out on this question for a bit. The whole point of this article and discussion is that we'd use our strengths to glorify God and bless others. Perhaps they could better use a significant strength somehow in their church, neighborhood, or to bless family and friends.**
 4. What other takeaway(s) do you have from this guide? **Time permitting, see if anyone has anything else to share.**
 5. When you close in prayer, pray for each other in light of your strengths. **Thank God for the strengths he's given, for wisdom in developing them, and for greater opportunities to use them.**

Any questions/thoughts?