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# *A Year in the Word*

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## **A Year in the Word: Letters: Part 2 Letters**

### **Small Group Questions: How to Give the Best Gifts This Christmas**

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#### **Read**

Ephesians 2:10–14, 4:7–16

#### **Reflect**

The book of Ephesians offers incredible wisdom—describing how each part of the church body fits together. This letter, written by Paul, serves as a blueprint for how we can use our gifts. “Without you, we are an incomplete picture of the body of Christ.” How does that statement by Pastor Josh Surratt impact you?

Pastor Josh highlights several ways to give the best gifts this Christmas:

1. Jesus has given me a gift.
  - a. What’s the best Christmas present you have ever received, and why?
  - b. Give examples of how Jesus exhibits all of the following characteristics.
    - Apostles: pioneer and explore
    - Prophets: hear God’s voice
    - Evangelists: recruit
    - Pastors: nurture and protect
    - Teachers: understand and explain
  - c. Which do you think are your strongest...and why?
  - d. Consider taking the survey at [fivefoldsurvey.com](http://fivefoldsurvey.com) to see if it coincides with what you consider your strongest gifts.
2. I am a gift to the church.
  - a. How do you view your gifts? Do you see them as valuable to the church? Explain.
  - b. What if you’re in possession of something that could be a game changer for someone?
  - c. How and when has God prompted you to use your gifts? Do you consider it a responsibility to use your gifts? Explain.
    - i. Have you ever felt that you missed an opportunity to use your gifts? What was the reason you ignored the prompting?
  - d. How might you become more involved in the church, using your gifts?
3. The church is a gift to the world.
  - a. Do you remember ever feeling like an outsider? What can you do to prevent someone else from feeling the same?
  - b. Who is a good example of someone using their gifts, for God?
  - c. Who in your life is living without hope? How can you encourage them and make sure they know they’re included in God’s plan?

**Respond:** Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?