

Gifts Application: Stepping Out in Faith to Serve

- **Prayer:** Holy Spirit, Open my heart and my mind to what you want to do in my life. Teach me. Change me. Use me. Amen.
- **Isaiah 61:1-2** *“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. To proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*

Jesus quoted these words in **Luke 4:18-19**. After those words he rolled up the scroll and said in **Luke 4:21** *“Today, this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”*

- **Share Mission Statements and Goals and Individual Prayer**

- **The Hand of God**

1 Thessalonians 1:4 *“God not only loves you very much but also has put his hand on you for something special.”*

Psalm 73:23 *“Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.”*

Isaiah 41:13 *“For I am the Lord, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, ‘Do not fear; I will help you.’”*

Jeremiah 29:11-13 *“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”*

- **Stepping out of our comfort zone brings up fear! Move from fear to faith/trust in God. What might get in the way for you? Who can hold you accountable to your mission and goals?**

What gets in the way for you? There are 365 “Fear not’s” in the Bible. Fear shows up most often in our expectations of ourselves and others, often “silent contracts”, or we make assumptions, then believe them and act on them. Communicate, clarify, communicate and clarify some more!

- **Moving from barriers to action:**

Move from: Expectations to Intentions (practicing on a daily basis)
Excuses to Forgiveness, Accountability
Complaints to Honoring Feelings, Acting on Commitments
Inner Critic to Acknowledgements
Fear/Stress Responses to Proactive Behaviors

- **Prayer**