

Everyone Has A Part To Play

Ephesians 2:19-22

September 27, 2026

Vitality

DAY 1: YOU ARE NOT A STRANGER

READING: EPHESIANS 2:19-22

Paul writes to a diverse, unlikely community and tells them they are no longer outsiders. They belong to something eternal. The same is true for you. Whatever brought you through the doors of a church, whatever doubt or curiosity or quiet desperation drove you there, you were not an accident. God does not build his household with strangers. He builds it by making strangers into family. Your past, your background, your questions do not disqualify you. They are the very things that shape the unique stone you are in this structure. You were made to belong here.

Personal Reflection: In what areas of your faith life do you still feel like an outsider? Bring those honestly before God today.

Practical Application: Reach out to one person in your church community this week simply to say you are glad they are there.

DAY 2: THE CORNERSTONE HOLDS EVERYTHING TOGETHER

READING: EPHESIANS 2:20, PSALM 118:22, ISAIAH 28:16

Paul describes Christ as the cornerstone of the church. In ancient construction, the cornerstone determined the direction and integrity of the entire structure. Every wall, every angle, every measurement was set according to that one stone. In Psalm 118:22, the stone rejected by builders becomes the most important stone of all. In Isaiah 28:16, God promises to lay a sure foundation that will not shift. Jesus is not merely a good teacher or moral example. He is the reference point by which everything in your life finds its proper alignment. When life feels crooked, return to the cornerstone.

Personal Reflection: Where in your life have you been building according to your own measurements rather than aligning yourself to Christ?

Practical Application: Identify one decision or habit in your life this week and deliberately ask how Christ as cornerstone should shape it.

DAY 3: FITTED TOGETHER ON PURPOSE

READING: EPHESIANS 4:11-16, 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-18

Ephesians 4:16 describes the body of Christ as joined and held together, with each part functioning in its proper, fitted capacity so that the whole body grows and builds itself up in love. Paul reinforces this in 1 Corinthians 12, where he makes clear that no part of the body can say to another that it is not needed. The eye cannot function as a hand. The foot cannot function as an ear. God does not make redundant parts. The shape of your life, your experiences, your gifts, your story, all of it has been formed to fit somewhere specific. You are not interchangeable. You are a critical piece.

Personal Reflection: Have you ever minimized your contribution to your church community? What would it mean to take your role seriously as something God designed rather than something optional?

Practical Application: Identify one area where you could explore serving or how you can engage your gift in that area of serving. Take a concrete step in that direction this week.

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DAY 4: STEWARDS OF A GIFT YOU DID NOT EARN

READING: 1 PETER 4:10-11, ROMANS 12:4-8

Peter writes that each person has received a gift and is called to use it to serve others as a good steward of God's grace. The word steward is significant. A steward does not own what they manage. They are responsible for it on behalf of another. Your spiritual gifts were not given to you for your own comfort or identity. They were entrusted to you for the benefit of others and the glory of God. Romans 12 reminds us that these gifts differ according to the grace given to each person. Comparison is a thief. Your gift is not lesser because it is different. It is necessary because it is yours.

Personal Reflection: Are you currently using what God has placed in you to serve others, or are you holding it back? What fear or hesitation is keeping you from stepping into your gifted space?

Practical Application: Watch or listen to a talk from the VPC "Empowered" series on YouTube. (<https://www.youtube.com/@VitalpointChurch>)

Ask two or three trusted people in your life what gifts they see in you.

DAY 5: PLANTED FOR THE LONG HAUL

READING: JEREMIAH 29:4-7, COLOSSIANS 1:28-29

In Jeremiah 29, God tells his displaced people to settle in, plant gardens, seek the peace of the city where they have been placed, and pray for it. Their vitality was not measured by their comfort but by their contribution to the community around them. Colossians 1:28 captures the pastoral heart behind all of this: warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. Maturity is not a passive process. It is the result of being rooted, being connected, being used. A church that is vital is not one that simply fills seats. It is one where people are being formed into the fullness of who Christ made them to be, right where they are planted.

Personal Reflection: Are you treating VPC as a place you attend or a community you are part of? What would it look like to be truly planted where God has placed you?

Practical Application: Write down one way you will contribute to the health of VPC and your surrounding community in the next thirty days. Share it with someone who will hold you accountable.