



**“The Life Challenge”**  
**September 19, 2021**  
**“Rise Up” (Judges 5:6-7)**

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### **Connection Question**

- We start this new ministry year on the heels of a very strange and isolating season in history. As you reflect on the past year:
    - What did you find the most challenging about living through the pandemic?
    - Were there any unexpected blessings that came out of the pandemic?
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### **Sunday Reflection**

**In the teaching this week, Matt referred to the story of Deborah from the book of Judges. Deborah’s story is an example of how one person’s decision to “step up” can spark a movement that leads to significant good being done.**

- Can you think of any modern day examples of one person making a significant difference? Share with the group.

**On Sunday, Matt talked about wrestling with the call of God in regards to what contribution each person is gifted to make in the life of the church.**

#### **Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-27**

- Share any general observations:
  - What jumped out at you?
  - What challenged you?
  - What questions did this passage raise?

- Consider the following three statements. For each, decide whether you think the statement is true or false, and share why you think that.
  - The more important the spiritual gift, the more mature and spiritual the person who has it is.
  - Some people are more important than others in the church, as in every other situation in life.
  - Only some Christians have gifts that are meant to contribute to the church.
- What would be the result if a member of the congregation decided not to exercise their spiritual gift within the church?

### **Within your group, what gifts are represented?**

- Share with the rest of the group what gifts or abilities God has given you that you think can be a benefit to the church
- In case you're all too humble to do what was suggested in the previous point, take time to name and affirm the gifts and abilities you see in someone else in the group, and how you think that gift/ability is, or can, be a benefit to the church.

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## **Prayer**

- As a church we still have volunteer needs in some of our regular ministry areas. Pray that God would call the right individuals to fill those gaps, for those people to hear that call, and for those people to then respond with a "Yes"!
- Pray that God would birth some new ministry opportunities in our church family this year. Pray that he would give new dreams and ideas to people in our congregation, and that those people would, like Deborah, courageously rise up and lead us forward in those things.