

Spring 2022

ROB AND ARLENE

THE WRIGHT FAMILY

SERVING WITH DOOR INTERNATIONAL

robw@doorinternational.org | doorinternational.org

WE ARE ONE BODY

Here at Deaf Community Fellowship (DCF), we occasionally see spiritual gifts mentioned in a Chronological Bible Translation (CBT) video. Some of our Deaf attendees have asked me about them, and when I share some information about spiritual gifts, they become intrigued. Therefore, they approached me and asked if I'd teach them about spiritual gifts.

My wife Arlene and I had a packet relating to spiritual gifts that we received in 2003 from a church we were members of at that time. We read over the statements in the packet briefly, quickly realizing that they were not Deaf friendly! So we met with Cindy Knakal, our co-worker, for one full day to discuss and rewrite the information to be more Deaf friendly. My wife prayed for God to bless her with graphics to be visual aids as I taught each spiritual gift. She created a PowerPoint to support my teaching of the 12 spiritual gifts.

Using the CBT videos, I taught from Galatians 5:13-26, [Living by the Spirit's Power](#), and 1 Corinthians 12, [Spiritual Gifts](#). In our Thursday Bible study group conducted on Zoom, we studied six spiritual gifts one week and the other six the week afterwards.

In early March, we held a workshop on spiritual gifts, and 20 Deaf people attended. We started with a survey to help people discover their spiritual gifts. So many of our attendees were thrilled to figure out their gifts and to see how they could apply their gifts to serving in DCF and the Deaf community.

After everyone had finished the survey, we went through the 12 spiritual gifts again, and each Deaf person intensely watched and inquired about each gift, finally comprehending with excitement because they had never understood the gifts when attending hearing churches!



"The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So, it is with the body of Christ."
1 Corinthians 12:12 (NLT)



Multiple “light bulbs” of understanding went on, and they no longer felt defeated by the concept of the spiritual gifts. **There was great joy on every person’s face as they talked about how to serve Jesus with the gifts He had given them. Praise the Lord!**

“All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.” 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NLT)

THE IMPACT OF THE **WORKSHOP**

A young man from our evening Warriors’ Training classes, Austin, shared his thoughts on the spiritual gifts teachings. “I was surprised by my results from the survey. **My top three gifts made me think deeply, and I felt special. The gift I scored the highest in was teaching. And I am still thinking about them and how they impact my life.**”



A Deaf woman, Shayna, attended the workshop as well, and afterwards, shared this on Facebook (edited for clarity): “Some people are wondering why I haven’t been baptized. Growing up, my mom taught me that being Deaf shouldn’t stop me from anything. I never went to a Deaf church that would teach me how to be in relationship with God. I didn’t understand the Bible until I started going to DCF. **It fits me perfectly, because it’s in my language, and I can understand everything because it’s crystal clear.** Since the spiritual gifts workshop, I look forward to learning more and using my gift in evangelism, which was the top result in my top three gifts. Interestingly, after I shared my result, the leaders shared that they’ve seen me already using my gift by telling people on Facebook to come and learn about Jesus. **I will be getting baptized this May, and I’m thrilled to follow the Lord.**”



GENEROUS **HEARTS**

“For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” 2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

We want to praise God for seeing how the Deaf people at DCF have been applying what they’ve learned about generous hearts. **They stepped out in faith, trusting the Lord, and gave with cheerful hearts to help us purchase some video equipment to help our Facebook livestreams become more smooth and clear.**



135 N. State St., Suite 200
Zeeland, MI • 49464
616.741.7200
DOORInternational.org

ABOUT DOOR

DOOR International’s mission is to bring God’s Word and reproducing Christian fellowships to the Deaf of the world. DOOR is a non-denominational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Christian mission organization.

Send gifts to: Dept. 9012, P.O. Box 30516, Lansing, MI 48909-8016

While DOOR seeks to apply every gift as intended, all contributions are solicited with the understanding that DOOR has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.

