

**VBS HERO HOTLINE**  
**Called Together to Serve God!**

**REGISTER TODAY!**  
**JUNE 5-9**  
**9AM - 1PM**  
**AGES 4-12**  
 (GOING INTO 6TH GRADE UP TO 12 YRS OLD)





**LV REACH COMMUNITY HELP CENTER** **URNS ONE!**

**FRIDAY, JUNE 2 | CELEBRATE WITH US!**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**OPEN HOUSE**  
**2-6PM**

**MEDICAL & DENTAL CHECK-UPS**  
**KID'S ACTIVITIES - LIVE MUSIC**  
**FOOD - GIVEAWAYS & MORE!**

860 E. THAIN AVE  
 SUITE 107 & 108  
 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89169

[LVREACH.ORG](http://LVREACH.ORG)

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS**



# HOLY SPIRIT WEEK 3

## WHOSE DREAM ARE WE LIVING?

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

**All of God's gifted people need to be exercising their spiritual gifts to build up and to be built up. It's then, and only then, that the church will be activated to reach its full potential.**

It is reasonable on Memorial Day to spend a moment reflecting on some of the great American speeches that shaped our nation. A number of them come to mind that have left meaningful legacies. Fiery speeches like Patrick Henry's "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" and Frederick Douglass's "The Hypocrisy of American Slavery." Tide-turning speeches such as Abraham Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address" and Ronald Reagan's "Tear Down This Wall." And speeches that pierced the heart of our national problems and provided a picture of a better tomorrow like Martin Luther King Jr's "I Have a Dream." These individuals, with all their diversity, believed in a dream, and the strength of their conviction unified others. It united them around the American dream, which was the belief that we could be a diverse but united people enjoying natural rights instituted by God in the pursuit of the freedoms He afforded. But there is a higher dream than the American Dream, God's dream for His church. God's dreams aren't fly-by-night fancies, they are fully realized realities that we have the privilege and opportunity to be a part of if we so choose. And His dream, which can be our reality, is to build a diverse people united in faith around the one true God and His Son, Jesus Christ. An eternal people, fully functioning, gospel radiating, spiritual gift using, culture transforming, built up, grown up, unified up, bound up in love as a force of gospel truth and love in His sovereign hand. Every Jesus follower needs to be fully living the dream of God.

### **(5 min) OPENING PRAYER**

As a Life Group, invite the Holy Spirit into your time. Ask God to begin to reveal the spiritual gift(s) that He has given to you. Confess your desire to want all that He has for you and your church and be willing to take the necessary steps. Pray for God's dream to be realized in your church.

### **(10-20 min) TIME TO CONSIDER**

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through this week's lesson, consider these questions as a group and discuss them. Consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. How different is your picture of the church from God's picture conveyed in Ephesians 4:11-16? Read through the description that is given of the church when APEST gifts are operating, and all the saints are using their gifts for the work of the ministry. What strengths exist in your church, and what are the weaknesses? How can you play a part in making things align with the ultimate vision that God has for His people?

• Galatians 5:16-24

2. The church grows in its God-intended way when God's people are creating the right culture. Paul describes the culture in Ephesians 4:1-6. Read through these verses. What stands out to you? How does your life reflect the culture? What threats do you see to this "church growth" culture? Discuss as a Life Group how you can be an influence for good.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSES:

**Ephesians 4:11-12** "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ."

**(20 min) EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER:** As a Life Group, take the next 15-20 minutes to pray and ask to encounter the Holy Spirit. Remove distractions as best you can and start by asking, "Come, Holy Spirit, come." Pray that He will show you how you have contributed to the church. How has your life contributed to the culture that Paul lays out in Ephesians 4:1-6? Be honest with one another about strengths and weaknesses. Discuss spiritual gifts. What gifts do you experience in one another's lives? What is holding you back from exercising your gifts? Pray for one another and be intentional about creating an environment where your gifts can be discovered and developed.

### **(5 min) LIVE IT**

Based on the study, consider at least one way this week to step out in faith to discover or continue to grow the gift God has given you. Be specific about using your gift(s) to build up the local church you are a part of. Submit yourself to the fivefold gifting in the church. Choose to engage in what God is already doing in the church.