

FAMILY DEVOTION:: PRIME:: ENTRUSTED

LESSON 2:: ANOINTED SKILLS

Eric Liddell was a gifted runner. He became known as the “Flying Scotsman” because he loved to run and was fast enough to set Olympic records. When Paris hosted the Olympics in 1924, Eric was expected to run the 100-meter race. Although this was his best event, the race was scheduled on a Sunday. In honor of God, Eric refused to run a race on Sunday. Instead, Eric trained for the 400-meter race and won in 47.6 seconds. In the movie *Chariots of Fire*, which portrays Liddell’s famous race as well as his faith in Jesus Christ, the Scottish runner explained, “I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure.” Eric was given the physical ability to run fast, and he used this gift to bring God glory.

After freeing the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, God made a covenant with the Israelites that He would be their God and that they would be His people. Then God gave Moses specific instructions on how to build a sanctuary or Tabernacle. This was to be Israel’s place of worship that physically represented God’s presence dwelling with his people.

Read Exodus 31:1–11 together as a family. Not only did God provide the architectural blueprints for building the sanctuary, but He also chose and equipped particular people for the work. God chose Bezalel and Oholiab by name, along with others, and filled them with His Spirit. That means that God equipped them for the work with skill, ability, knowledge, and craftsmanship to carry out God’s instructions.

Just as God equipped Bezalel, Oholiab, and Eric Liddell in unique ways to participate in God’s work, so too have we been given gifts, resources, knowledge, and skills to use for God’s glory. God has given us instructions to live faithfully, to follow God’s Word, and to love others above ourselves. We are invited to participate in God’s saving work by sharing our faith in Jesus with others in what we say and do. This is where your particular gifts come in. How you participate in God’s work of sharing the truth of Jesus and loving others reflects how God has gifted you. God has given you a unique combination of interests, talents, abilities, and knowledge. Our God-given gifts are intended to be used for God’s glory.

CONNECTION QUESTIONS

1. How has God gifted you? (Think about what you enjoy doing and what you’re interested in. If you need some help, ask your family or a close friend.)
2. How does knowing that God has particularly gifted you with abilities, interests, and knowledge affect the way that you view your gifts?
3. What is the purpose of your unique gifts?
4. How does this purpose shape the way that you intend to use your talents and skills?
5. In what ways can you use your God-given gifts to share your faith and serve God in order to make Him known?