

Vocation Exploration

A **VOCATION** is God's plan for our lives: our life's purpose. Our vocation represents how we answer God's call – as a career, family situation or the general every-day path we choose to serve Him and others.

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We will have special guests with us next week: a Priest, a Deacon, a Seminarian, a Single Person, a Sister, and a Married Couple. To help with this presentation, please think of some questions you might have for some or all of these people.

**Married Life** – A call to a lifelong commitment of deep and shared love in union with another person.

**Committed Single Life** – To live out your life as a single person independently with a serving heart.

**Consecrated Life as a Sister or Nun** – To dedicate your life to God and to follow Jesus through vows. They live a prayerful life in community and in service to others. Sisters and Nuns do not get married.

**Priesthood** - Men who live vowed religious lives within the Catholic Church, following in the footsteps of Jesus in ministry. A Priest is able to administer all Sacraments. Priests can become Bishops, Cardinals and even the Pope. They remain single in order to dedicate their whole being to the mission of Jesus.

**Diaconate** – Ordained men who are single or married can become Deacons. They can have regular jobs to support their families and also help their pastor by visiting the sick, teaching the faith, counseling, and working on parish committees and councils. Deacons can marry couples and baptize people. To become a Deacon, one must complete 5 years of formation.

**Seminarian** – A man who is studying to become a Priest. In order to become a priest, one must complete at least 8 or 9 years of college and formation.

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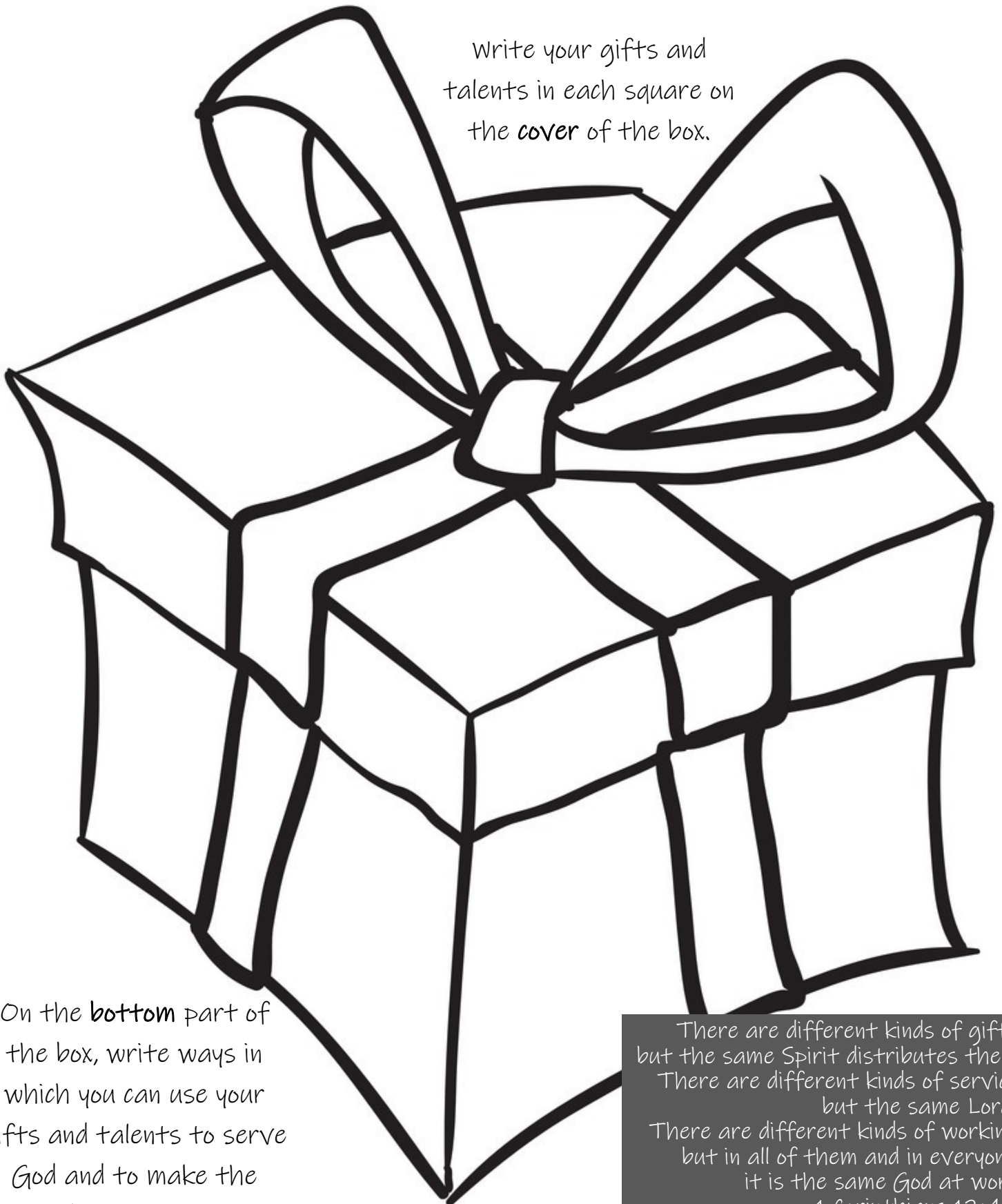
We are all uniquely different from each other. God has given us different gifts and talents. Many of us may have the same talents, but because of other talents and the combination of these, we are different.

Through our Baptism, we are given the gift of being a child of God and called to be a disciple of Jesus. Each of us is also called to follow Him in a special way through our **personal vocation**. Our gifts and talents will be used by the Lord as we live out that vocation. By using our talents we come to know and love Jesus more and more and we also make the world we live in a better place.

What are your gifts and how can you use them to serve God and others? 

I have a one-of-a-kind personality and
God has given me many unique gifts.

Write your gifts and
talents in each square on
the *cover* of the box.



On the **bottom** part of
the box, write ways in
which you can use your
gifts and talents to serve
God and to make the
world a better place.

There are different kinds of gifts,
but the same Spirit distributes them.
There are different kinds of service,
but the same Lord.
There are different kinds of working,
but in all of them and in everyone
it is the same God at work.
1 Corinthians 12:4-6