

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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Wisdom from Bishop Sarah

I went on a three day residential this week as a participant in the Wilfred Wood Leadership Program. On Wednesday we visited St Paul's Cathedral, and one of the speakers was Bishop Sarah Mullaly, the Bishop of London. She spoke into the question *How best can I use my gifts in ministry?* I thought the 6 points she gave were very helpful, and most, if not all, can probably apply to all of us in different areas of our lives. I have produced them below with a few additions from me.

1. Pay attention to your relationship with God. Specially during dry and challenging times, know that your primary identity is not how effective or productive your life is, but your status as a beloved child of God.
2. Do what you are already doing, really well. Whether they are big or small things, God has called you to where you are now, so inhabit it well.
3. Discover your voice, thoughts, ideas, not someone else's. People will always try to make you, do, speak, behave in their way. Know, what God is calling **you** to be and do in this place at this time.
4. Understand your weaknesses. Is it some skills you need to learn and grow in or is it your personality. Honest regular self reflection is very important.
5. Take advice, if you are unhappy where you are at or feel the need for something new. As well as thinking and praying about it, make sure you also get input from a few people you really trust. Think, take advice, pray.
6. Watch for doors that open. Don't dismiss them. Don't run head long into them either, but explore them. Exploring new vocations, ministries, jobs, things to do, lifestyles, social circles, interests etc, even if they don't work out, the act of exploring, will help you discover more things about your self.

Which, if any, of the 6 points above speaks to you the most at this time?