United Sunday School Class:

Session 11: United for Service

[11] 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, [13] until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, [14] so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. [15] Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, [16] from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. -Eph 4:11-16

Introduction: A Culture of Service

- First Scots is a Terrible Church…

Church Membership as a Commitment to Service:

"Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?"

(Fourth Membership Vow)

- Gather — To Be Equipped (Ephesians 4:11–12)

- Scatter — To Be Deployed (Ephesians 4:12–16)

<u>Five Ways to Serve</u>

I. Encourage and Stir Up One Another- Hebrews 10:24–25

- Be intentional about one another's spiritual well-being.

- One of the most important ways to serve is simply to show up.

II. Find and Refine Your Gifts for Usefulness- 1 Peter 4:10–11; Philippians 2:6–8

- Every Christian has something to contribute.
- Beware of pride; be willing to do ordinary things.

III. Do Life Together- 1 Thessalonians 2:8; Colossians 1:28

- The church's ultimate work is people growing in Christ.

IV. Do Ministry Together- Philippians 1:27

- Find Gospel co-laborers, not merely church friends.

V. Give Sacrificially- 2 Corinthians 8:9

- Everything we enjoy is the fruit of someone's generosity.
- The tithe provides a helpful starting point.
- Give above and beyond for extraordinary opportunities (e.g. Campus Fund)

Conclusion: A Test of Christian Servanthood

- How do you respond when you're actually treated like a servant?
- Follow the example of Jesus (John 13; Mark 10:45).
- If you don't know where to serve, start somewhere. Make yourself available.