

Walking the Way of the Kingdom: Putting into Practice the Way of Jesus
Winter 2026
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Session 6 – Community

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”
– Matthew 6:24 (ESV)

Part of the life of faith is serving others. If you remember from Acts 2 last week, when we were talking about community, there was a clear picture and reminder that in community we serve one another.

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”
(Galatians 6:9–10 ESV)

“Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.” (Acts 6:1–6 ESV)

We are called to serve each other as brothers and sisters in Christ, but also to the whole world. The Great Commission demands this because sharing the Gospel and making disciples is a service.

Central to Wesley's understanding of the "prudential means of grace" were works of mercy which included (but are not limited to):

- Doing good
- Visiting the sick and prisoners
- Feeding and clothing people

Why?

Service is costly. It costs our time, resources, and skills. Let's go back to the parables of the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price in Matthew 13:44-46

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Notes: