

This Summer
Part 4 of 4
Why I Serve

I. Introduction

- a. This summer is an opportunity to overcome temptation and pursue and become closer to God.
- b. Why I serve is about sparking a desire to use our God given gifts to serve in our church, city with a mission to change the world.
 - i. As Christians, serving isn't just something that we do, but it is a part of who we are.
 - 1. When serving is who we are, it becomes a privilege instead of an obligation to do so.
 - 2. Serving is something that we cannot live without because it is necessary to our being.
- c. When we serve, we are like Jesus because he was the greatest servant of them all.
 - i. We all have the opportunity to serve and give back at the church that we attend and benefit from.

Luke 22:27 NIV

²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

II. Serving in Church

- a. Back then only ordained priest, clergy and ministers served in the church.
- b. Now anyone who believes in Jesus can utilize their God given gifts to serve in the church.
 - i. We all have spiritual gifts from God.
 - 1. These gifts could be gifts of helps, mercy, hospitality, miracles prophecy and evangelism.
 - a. Our gifts are wide and varied.
 - i. Therefore, we can remember that our gifts are not supposed to compete against each other; they are supposed to complement and complete each other.
 - 2. We can celebrate and appreciate all gifts and passions, even though one person gift or passion may not be the same as ours.

1 Peter 4:10 NIV

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

Romans 12:6 NIV

⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

- ii. Our Gifts can be used in the local church.
- iii. Our gifts can be used to serve others.

III. Removing Excuses to Serve

- a. People may not serve because they feel like they are not good enough, they are not needed, they do not know how or where to serve or they are too busy.
 - i. However, once people try serving, they will see that they are an important component of the local church.
 - ii. Each person has the ability to reach people in a way no one else can.

Galatians 5:13

¹³You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh^[a]; rather, serve one another humbly in love.