

Spiritual Disciplines
Developing Habits That Will Change Your Life
Week 4: Serving as a Discipline

Scripture

Various

Motivation (Why You Need This):

Differences between a spectator and a participator...

Spectator – watches from the audience or sidelines

Participator – is in the game

Information (What You Need to Know):

In the body of Christ, there are no spectators – we're created to *do*, not *sit*.

Ephesians 2:10 (ESV) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

1 Corinthians 12:1 (NLT) Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this.

What are spiritual gifts?

Divine abilities given by the Holy Spirit to all believers for use in building and benefiting the church body for the glory of God

Principles in moving from a spectator to a participator:

- You have a spiritual gift

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT) A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. **11** It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

- Not using your spiritual gift hurts everyone

1 Corinthians 12:18 (NLT) But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. **19** How strange a body would be if it had only one part! **20** Yes, there are many parts, but only one body.

- Use your gift in love

1 Corinthians 13:1 (NLT) If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

Panel Discussion:

[All Staff Answer] Tell us your name, what your title is at The Summit, and briefly about what area you are responsible for.

[All Staff Answer] Tell us briefly how and in what area you first began serving when you were new in faith.

[All Staff Answer] There's a BIG difference between *what* is accomplished in your area and *why* you do what you do in your area of ministry. We often tell people what they will be doing in an area of ministry, but can you share the heart behind *why* they do what they do?

[General Question] When people do not get involved in serving others in the church, what do they miss?

[General Question] If you could only use one Scripture to convince someone that serving others is God's plan for His church, what would it be?

[All Staff Answer] Briefly share your heart about why people should get involved in your area of ministry (if that's how they're gifted).

Application (What You Need to Do):

Here is what we envision for serving at The Summit...
100% of the people volunteering at least 1 time a month

Why 100% participation?

- God wants you to serve others (we practice inside so we can serve outside)
- Many hands make light work (that's not in the Bible, by the way, although the principle is there)