

## FLAPS DOWN: Taking Time to Refuel Ministry

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*If you're a Christian, you're in ministry...*

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)*

*Where do you currently serve in ministry?*

- *When the ministry tank is empty, we become consumers and not contributors – “Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” (Gal. 6:9-10)*

*Would you consider yourself more of a consumer or a contributor? Why?*

*Refueling the ministry tank involves...*

- *(Motivation): You seek to please the right “Boss” – “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” (Col. 3:23-24)*

*Describe situations or circumstances in ministry where it might be tempting to please someone else instead of God.*

‡ *Sometimes it's faithfulness over fit – “Uzziel son of Harhaiah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired the next section; and Hananiah, one of the perfume-makers, made the repairs next to that.” (Neh. 3:8a)*

*Tell of a situation where your service to God might not have been the best fit for your personality, talents, or desires, but God was able to use you because of your faithfulness.*

- *(Dependence): You trust the right source of power – “To this end I labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me.” (Col. 1:29)*
- *(Commitment): You have a huge vision for people – “We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.” (Col. 1:28)*

*Name one way you could help someone else grow in their faith. What steps will you take this week to make it happen?*

- *(Appreciation): You have a love for the whole, not just the parts – “The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ...If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” (1 Cor. 12:12, 26)*

¶ *Note: you don't always need a committee approval to meet a need – “Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, ‘Come back later; I’ll give it tomorrow’ – when you now have it with you.” (Prov. 3:27-28)*

*Is there something you feel God is calling you to do to meet a need for an individual, for a cause or for our church? Tell about it.*

*Without your ministry, we don't grow in love...*

*From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (Eph. 4:16)*

*What will you do this week to help the body grow in love? If you're not sure ask your group to pray about it.*