

A DISCIPLE'S JOURNEY

WE EXIST TO MAKE DISCIPLES WHO MAKE DISCIPLES

Step 8

Serve God By Using Your Gifts

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 Mark 10:45 1 Peter 4:10

If you are a new creation and alive in Christ, you are gifted! Scripture tells us that every believer has been gifted by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of glorifying God and edifying His church. As we continue our journey, it is important for us to recognize the gifts that God has given us, and to use them in serving Him and others.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. – I Corinthians 12:4-6

As Paul writes these words to the church at Corinth, his emphasis is on God more than on the gifts. He wants the church, as well as you and I, to remember that ultimately the gifts that God has given us are opportunities to strengthen others and reveal the truths of Jesus to the world. Our gifts and service may look different from one another, but all have the same source, God, and the same purpose, to be used to serve Him.



Read

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

- I Peter 4:8-II

Reflect

1. Take time to read 1 Corinthians 12-14, Romans 12, and Ephesians 4 where the spiritual gifts are listed. What spiritual gifting has God given you to be a faithful steward and servant with? If you're unsure, consider attending the next Partnership Class or reaching out to the church office to take a spiritual gifts test.

2. What is the motivation behind service?What does it look like for you to serve in the local church?

3. How will you use your gifts in the community to serve God and help others?

Read

When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them. - John 13:12-17

Reflect

I. What is the main idea Jesus is conveying through this passage of Scripture? What is the example that He has set for His followers?

2. How willing are you to serve rather than be served?

3. Spend time in prayer, asking the Lord to grow you in humility and lead you to follow the example of Jesus in service.



