

# Seaside Church // Sermon Notes

**DISCIPLES** // A series on following Jesus together in the local church.  
4 – Serve Your God

## Summary

After receiving the gospel, connecting in community, walking with God, and knowing yourself, the next question is, "What will you do with the rest of your life?" God has things for you to do! We are called to serve him for the rest of our days. This fifth step in being a disciple covers a biblical theology for serving God and some practical help in what that looks like.

## Group Questions

- Share something from the message or passage that surprised, encouraged, or troubled you.
- "There is nothing you can do in this life that is more fulfilling than serving God!" Discuss this statement. (Read Ecclesiastes 2.1-11 and 12.13-14 if you want to dig into this some more.) Be honest about things you value more than serving God.
- How did the first humans serve God? (see Genesis 2.15) This was a somewhat involved discussion in the message. Remember that the future tabernacle and temple were like models of Eden. So who is Adam and Eve being compared to?
- Beginning with Adam and Eve, the scriptures clearly paint the picture that all of humanity was meant to serve God. Read Exodus 19.3-6, 1 Peter 2.4-5, and Revelation 1.1-6 and discuss how these passages demonstrate this point with the concept of the priesthood.
- Most of the NT writers refer to themselves as a servant of God or servant of Jesus (Romans 1.1; Philippians 1.1; James 1.1; 2 Peter 1.1; Jude 1; Revelation 1.1). Do you think of yourself as a servant of God? When you meet someone new what do you want them to know about you? Is, "a servant of God" in that list? How might this reveal your "identity idols"? Discuss this.
- Every believer has been given spiritual gifts to serve God and others. Read 1 Peter 4.7-11 and discuss.
- Here's a tool to help you know your gifts. Go around your group and help each other discern one another's spiritual gifts (the last one below).
  - Read and understand the 4 texts on spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12; Ephesians 4; 1 Peter 4).
  - Pray and ask God to reveal to you how he's gifted you.
  - Serve in a variety of ways in the church. (Note some things we need help in!)
  - Listen to what others say about you. Ask them to help you affirm your gifting.
- The level of our willingness to serve God is related to the level of our love for God! Have someone summarize or read the story of the prostitute who served Jesus in Luke 7.36-50. How does her love for Jesus encourage and challenge you?

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- We ultimately serve because Jesus first serve us (Mark 10.45). How does this verse motivate you to serve?

### Prayer Point

- Read Romans 12.1-2. Have you offered yourself to God as a servant? Pray a prayer of surrender to him!

### For Families with Kids

- What is it like to serve someone? When is it hard? When is it easy? Try to help your kids see how it's easy when we love and value the person we are serving. This should also be true when we love and value God. Finally discuss the reason why we serve. We serve because Jesus first served us! Read Mark 10.45.

Email any questions to Pastor Rob – [rob@seasidechurch.com](mailto:rob@seasidechurch.com)

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