SCOTT GOODWILL

THE GIFT OF HELPING



For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching;

ROMANS 12:4-7

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues.





The gift of helping is a Spirit-empowered ability to notice need and serve in practical ways to meet that need. It carries with it the meaning to lay hold of (as in "be hands on") or to aid.

Those with the gift:

- 1. Will inspire us in serving
- 2. Can lead us in areas of service
- 3. Will allow the work of prayer and the word to carry on
- 4. Will help those with the gift to be grateful and have patience with the growth of others

A dispute also arose among them, as to which of them was to be regarded as the greatest. And he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

LUKE 22:24-27

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God,

JOHN 13:1-3

rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."

JOHN 13:4-7

Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

JOHN 13:8-11

When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

JOHN 13:12-15

Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them

CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVANTS:

1. NOTICE NEED



"His holiness is an infinite energy that only finds its rest in making holy...Holiness is a burning fire that extends itself, that seeks to consume what is unholy, and to communicate its holiness to all that will receive it. Holiness and selfishness, holiness and inactivity, holiness and sloth, holiness and helplessness, are utterly irreconcilable... Holiness is essential to effective service. And service is no less essential to true holiness."

ANDREW MURRAY

CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVANTS:

2. WORK HARD

You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

ACTS 20:34-35



His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

MATTHEW 25:21





"Is not the morality here enjoined indeed rare? Are not the virtues called into play by acts of condescension and charity most difficult? Who dreams of calling them easy? How utterly contrary they are to the native tendencies of the human heart! How alien from the spirit of society! Is it the way of man to be content with the humblest of places, and to seek their felicity [happiness] in serving others? Doth not the spirit that is in us lust unto envy, strive ambitiously for positions of influence, and deem it the greatest happiness to be served, and to be exempt from the drudgery of servile tasks?"



"In proportion to the difficulty and the rarity of the virtue prescribed is the felicity [happiness] of those who are enabled to practice it. Easy undertakings bring small pains, but they also bring small pleasures; rapturous delight is reserved for those who attempt and accomplish that which passes for impossible.



And what raptures can be purer, holier, and more intense than those of the man who has at length succeeded in making the mind of the meek and lowly One his own; who, after long climbing, has reached the alpine summit of selfforgetful, self-humbling love! And to all who make such efforts it is a great happiness to be assured of the approval of Him who they serve."

CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVANTS:

3. MEET THE PRACTICAL NEEDS OF OTHERS AND THE MOMENT

CHARACTERISTICS OF SERVANTS:

4. PRACTICE FAITHFULNESS BY PRIORITIZING SERVING

"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."

LUKE 17:7-10

The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

MATTHEW 23:11

