

## **SERVE!**

- **Opening Announcements**
- **Opening Prayer**

Q: When you think about a "servant", what comes to your mind?

Q: What are some of the characteristics that you think of when you think of a servant?

Q: What's HARD about service?

Q: What's AWESOME about service?

## **TABLE TIME....**

**READ: 1 Peter 4:7-11** "The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. <sup>8</sup> Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. <sup>9</sup> Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. <sup>10</sup> As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: <sup>11</sup> whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

Q: What sticks out to you in this passage?

Q: What might "the end of all things is at hand" help explain the emphasis on service? Like, how does "the end of all things" emphasize what's important?

Q: How does "what's important" relate to service?

Q: What's the relationship between being "self-controlled" and "sober-minded"?

Q: How does being "self-controlled" and "sober-minded" impact our prayers?

Q: According to verse 8, what's the most important thing? How does it "cover a multitude of sins"?

Q: What IS "hospitality"? Why is it important?

Q: How does "grumbling" destroy true hospitality? Like what's the importance of attitude? (Hint: has to do with verse 8!!!).

Q: According to verse 10, what does this indicate?

Q: What's the command in verse 10?

Q: What is a "steward"? (Hint: think a manager...of someone else's stuff, business, household, etc.)

Q: In verse 11, Peter gives us an example of a particular spiritual gift. What is it and how is it to be used?

Q: What is an "oracle of God"?

### ***Big Group Debrief....***

**READ: Ephesians 4:11-16** "And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."

Q: According to verse 11, what did God "give"?

Q: According to verse 12, what is their purpose?

Q: What's the goal of all according to 13-15?

Q: According to verse 16, what is the relationship between the Body of Christ and gifts?

Q: What happens when we aren't using, or developing the gifts God has given?

Q: Do you know your "spiritual gift"?

**POINT:** IF NOT, we'll be exploring them in the coming weeks!

**HOMEWORK:** Jesus said: "ask, seek and knock" with the promise to "give good gifts to those who ask" - Matthew 7:7-10. SO, over the coming days and weeks, commit to a study on Spiritual Gifts and to asking God in prayer.