

Disciples Serve His Church

Text: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹ 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

A. Theme: Disciples use their spiritual gifts and look for ways to serve in the local church.

a. Review

i. Love our God

1. Four aspects of loving God

a. Why God Commands Us To Love Him

b. Why we can't love God

c. Why we can Love God

d. What Our Love for God Looks Like

ii. Connect with People

1. The Principle: What is the reason disciples connect with people?

2. The Process: What do disciples do when they connect with people?

3. The Product: What are the results when disciples connect with people?

Use Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=97&v=R_bkNkrWdz8

iii. "The saddest thing in life is wasted talent"
Charles Dickens (a letter to his son)

- B. Who serves everyone!
- a. We ALL have spiritual gifts
 - b. God has blessed every person he created
 - i. **“Whatever gift”** it can be something very simple does not have to be complex or on a grand scale.
 - ii. **How we use those gifts should be for God. Colossians 3:23–24** (ESV) tells us that everything we do should be for Christ:
“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”
 - c. You must embrace his gift
 - i. **“You have received”** When you receive a gift you must accept it, embrace it, use it for its potential.
 - d. God wants you to use his gifting
 - i. **“Faithful stewards of God's grace”** Any gift or talent that you have is authored or authorized by God! Understand that your abilities are God given not of yourselves. **And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works. Hebrews 10:24** God has given YOU a gift/talent with the purpose of YOU using it to serve one another ultimately serving HIM. Use the gift he has given you correctly (have you ever tried eating soup with a fork? Or hammering a nail with a screwdriver?)
 - e. You must LOOK to serve others (by serving Jesus)
 - i. Find ways to help
 - ii. Be active in looking
 - iii. Be connected to your local church.

B.

C. How we Serve?

- a. Just like the video we watched earlier, right?
 - i. Stay at home watch church on a screen,
 - ii. be critical on everything that doesn't suit you
 - iii. Worry or dwell on what's happening after church whether it be lunch, football , or both!
- b. "If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides"
 - i. Serve with the strength that God provides
 1. "The struggle is real"-(and so is Satan) -sometimes it is hard to get motivated. You have a hard week then on the "one day that you don't have to do anything" you have Sunday school. **God provides you the talent and the strength, you are just giving it back!**
 2. God gives you a complete gift and the power to operate it. (christmas toy with no batteries)
- c. When we serve do it with a right spirit
 - i. Serving with a disgruntled unhappy heart or from "duty"
 1. Above all else, guard your heart,for everything you do flows from it. Proverbs 4:23
 2. If you serve because "you should help out" not because you want to there is no benefit.
 - ii. Serving with a joyful heart

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

- iii. When we serve it gives us a more natural interaction with people a chance to know who they really are.
- d. When is it enough-- NEVER
 - i. "Faithful stewards" (revist)
 - 1. When we are young
 - 2. When we are old
 - 3. Where we are right now don't wait for the "right season of life" serve now, serve always!

D. Where do we serve others?

- a. In our families
 - i. we should be looking to serve our spouse, children, brother or sister, parents and even extended family
- b. In our community. (christians need to be active in the real world)
 - i. Civic responsibility
 - ii. Donate to poor
 - iii. Serve in local outreach
 - 1. **Winter relief**
 - 2. **Egg hunt**
 - 3. **Lighthouse Lunches and Dinners**
 - 4. **County Fair outreach booth**
 - 5. **Events like these not in our church**
- c. Local church where we are in community "connected" with the local body.
 - i. **List practical things people can get involved in:**
 - 1. **Kingdom Safari Sunday School Teacher or helper**
 - 2. **Nursery Worker**
 - 3. **Youth Group**
 - 4. **Usher**
 - 5. **Greeters**
 - 6. **Coffee ministry**
 - 7. **Transportation**

8. Kitchen
9. Building and grounds upkeep
10. Worship Team
11. Egg Hunt and Family Festival
12. Winter Relief
13. Meal Trains
14. Prayer for one another
15. Mentoring
16. Discipleship
17. Audio visual
18. Connect Group Leader
19. Connect Group Host
20. Work Parties

- E. The result of service
 - a. For God's Glory
 - b. In all things God be praised
 - c. How long? Forever.....
- F. Response: Applying the Word
 - a. Who are we? Disciples
 - b. As disciples what do we have? Spiritual gifts
 - c. What do we do with our gifts? Serve others
 - d. Where do we serve? Community, family, and Local church
 - e. When we serve others at a local church who are we truly serving? Jesus
- G. Benediction: 1 Corinthians 15:58
- H. Teaching keywords: Discipleship; spiritual gifts; church; service
- I. Other texts: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:11-16 G.