

## PRAYER

- Pray for each person in your group to be able to know and be confident of your God-given gifts and how you can use them to serve.

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- Prayerfully consider the ministry that you can join to start serving in your local church.

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- Ask God to give you the grace and the change of heart to serve faithfully regardless of the response of the people you serve.

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## NOTES

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## CONNECT

- What is one talent or ability you have that you find very useful at home, at work, or in school? Why?
- What tasks in your house do you appreciate done for you?
- What is one talent or skill you are confident in showing in an audience?

## WORD

**Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.**  
**1 Peter 4:10**

### WHAT *What does the Bible say?*

The Apostle Peter encourages us in his letter to use our God-given gifts to live for God in light of what Jesus did for us. And one practical way to do this is to serve. Service is a selfless act that seeks to benefit others. What does the Bible say about our gifts and how we are to use these to serve?

- **Serve according to the ability given by God.**

*We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.*

Romans 12:6

Each of us has a good measure of ability given by God through His grace (1 Corinthians 15:10). These abilities were given to us with a purpose and God expects us to use these, most especially to serve. And we can be confident and secure that God, in all His wisdom, has determined what we can and cannot do. What are your talents and how do these help you serve? How has this benefited you in return?

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- **Serve others.**

*Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

Philippians 2:4

*Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.*

1 Peter 1:22

The theme of "one another" is highly repeated in the Bible, whether that's encouraging, accepting, submitting to, spurring, loving, etc.

Service, which is directed towards others and not the self, is highly encouraged. It entails humility and love that was modeled for us by Jesus Himself who took the very nature of a servant to put us first (Philippians 2:1-3). What stories about Jesus serving others touch you most? Why?

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- **Serve faithfully.**

<sup>23</sup>*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men,* <sup>24</sup>*since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

Colossians 3:23,24

Serving a perfect, kind, and loving God is easier than serving imperfect people. The challenge is to be consistent whether the people we serve are appreciative or not. How can looking at God's faithfulness help us serve consistently with the right heart?

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### SO WHAT *What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- When was the last time you appreciated someone who served you? How do you practice thanking and commending them?
- Who do you serve regularly? How is your heart or attitude while serving? What challenges have you met?
- How are your God-given abilities being maximized as you serve others?

### NOW WHAT *How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- Who can you serve today or this week? What do you plan to do?
- In what way can you regularly be of service to someone in your home or workplace?
- Which group of people do you think can benefit from your gifts, skills, or talents? How do you plan to bless them this week?