

## We Serve



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# SERMON-BASED STUDY

Ephesians 4:11-14, 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

## QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This weekend we were reminded that we are saved in order to serve. Why is service such an important element of our walk with Christ?
- 2 How does "building the body" of Christ lead to unity, maturity and Christlikeness?
- 3 In what ways are you currently serving and building up the body of Christ? If not, what are some areas you could serve in?

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** *1 Cor 12:5-7, ESV – Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

**Heb 13:20-21, ESV – Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, <sup>21</sup> equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.**

- 4 Looking at the passages above, what does Paul mean by "varieties of gifts," "varieties of service," and "varieties of activities"?

5 How do you feel knowing that God has equipped you to do His will? What is holding you back from doing His will?

6 What spiritual gifts has God manifested in you? What areas of service and/or activities do have a passion for? How can you best utilize your gifts in this area of service and/or activity?

B **1 Cor 12:27, ESV** – *Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*

**2 Tim 4:5, ESV** – *As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

7 When reading verses about the body of Christ, we see that each of us are members of His body. Why is it important for each body part to perform its function? What would happen if one, or a few, body part(s) stop functioning?

8 What is your function in the body of Christ? Are you fulfilling your ministry? Explain.

C **1 Peter 4:10-11, ESV** – *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.*

9 Looking at the passage above, what is God's will for us in regards to our spiritual gifts? Why?

10 Part of being a good steward and bringing glory to God is to delight in doing His will. Do you delight in serving others? Why or why not?

## TAKING IT HOME

God has gifted each of us to serve within the body of believers. To not serve others, is to not be in God's will. In what ways are you currently utilizing your unique giftedness to serve others? In what ways are you not serving others? What are your next action steps as you seek to stay in God's will for you through service?

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Isaiah 43:18-19

Jer 3:15

Rom 6:4

James 1:6

Rev 21:5

NOTE: If you are struggling with what your spiritual gifts might be, or where you can best utilize your gifts in the church, then consider joining our next "Connect to Serve" class. Email our Life Groups Pastor, Shane Clark, at [sclark@baylife.org](mailto:sclark@baylife.org) for more information.