

There has been much in the news the last few years about items "Made in America." As manufacturing moved abroad, the United States saw the growth of the service industry. When I was a kid, my mom washed and pressed our clothes and I helped my dad with the yard work. Today dry cleaners can be found on every corner, and it's hard to have a peaceful weekend afternoon without the sound of lawnmowers and leaf blowers. We, as Christians, are to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in various forms. [1 Peter 4:10 b]

How are you serving?

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### Getting To Know You

1. Have you ever been, or are you currently employed, in a service industry? If so, describe a good and a bad work experience.

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2. What's the worst gift you ever received? What happened to it? On the other hand, what was the best gift, and what happened to that? Do you still have it?

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### Into the Bible

1. How do our gifts prepare us for the "work of service" [Eph 4:12]? Why does God put such a high value on service?

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2. Life is also a gift from God. In Romans 12:1-2, how do we give our lives for others? Is it our life to lead and our gift to keep?

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3. How do we lose out [AND also rob God] when we don't share our gift?

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4. 1 Peter 4:11 speaks of giving glory to God through serving. What do you think it means to give glory to God? Write your definition.

*"Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."*

[1 Pet. 4:11]

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**Taking It Home**

1. The Bible tells us to desire spiritual gifts. Is it wrong to ask God for, or seek, a specific spiritual gift?

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2. Which of the gifts has God given you, and what opportunities has He given you to use His gifts?

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**“Gifted to Serve”**

*“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it 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.” [1 Peter 4:10-11]*

**What is the purpose of Spiritual Gifts?**

To S\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_ and bring P\_\_\_\_\_ to G\_\_\_\_\_.

When you come to church, is it

S\_\_\_\_\_ or S\_\_\_\_\_ U\_\_\_\_\_?

**How Using Our Gifts to Serve Works** [Eph. 4:12-16]

1. We use our gifts to S\_\_\_\_\_ the body.
2. It creates a U\_\_\_\_\_ in the body.
3. The body G\_\_\_\_\_ and matures.
4. God is P\_\_\_\_\_.

**How should we use our gifts?**

1. A Key Attitude: H\_\_\_\_\_
 

*“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.” [Rom. 12:3]*
2. A Key Motivation: L\_\_\_\_\_
 

*“Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.” [Romans 12:10]*  
*“Follow the way of love...” [1 Corinthians 14:1]*
3. A Key Goal: The G\_\_\_\_\_ of G\_\_\_\_\_.
 

*“...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.” [1 Peter 4:11]*