

Additional study: Romans 12:1-8

This passage is also about serving the Lord.

v.1 In view of what Christ has done for us, what should be our response to God?

v.2 What is essential for us to know the will of God for our lives. Explain what this looks like in everyday life.

Why are questions 1 and 2 significant to serving God and people?

v.3 What is the significance of this verse with regards to serving others the way Christ served us? (Also read John 13:12-15)

v.4-8 How does the way that God has gifted you fit into the working of the 'body of Christ'?

Examine each gift listed here and answer the following questions:

1. On a scale of 1-5 with 5 being the highest, how do I see myself fitting into this area of service?
2. Of the giftings that you scored highest in, how are you using it currently?
3. What can you do to have greater involvement in the workings of the 'body of Christ and the furtherance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ'?



A SERIES ON FULFILLING THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Emmanuel Mission Statement

Relying on the enabling presence and power of God, our mission is to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, to teach, baptize and disciple unto maturity in Christ.

1. Worship
2. Grow
3. Serve

Your Mission - Serve

Serving God =

A WARNING: WE ARE LIVING IN LIGHT OF _____ (v.7)

Why do we begin a message on serving God with a warning?

v.5 they will have to give account to him who is ready to _____ the living and the dead

Clear minded: (Col 3:1-2)

Self controlled:

so that...

A CALL TO ACTION: _____ (v.8-11)

v.8 Above all, _____ each other deeply

deeply comes from the Greek word 'ektenés' =

With the love of Jesus within us, what is our potential to love?

v.8 Love sees beyond someone's _____

2 Cor 5:16

1 Cor 13:4-7

v.9 Love open's the _____

Offer _____ to one another without _____

Hospitality = philoxenos =

Phil 2:14

v.10-11 Love get's _____

We are ministers of God's _____

When we speak:

When we serve:

1. Read 1 Peter 4:7-11. Peter says, "The end of all things is near..." Do you feel that we are in end times? Does this give you an urgency with regards to serving the Lord? What can we do to live our lives in light of eternity?
2. Verse 7 says to be 'clear minded' and 'self-controlled'. Also read Colossians 3:1-2. Why is being clear minded' and 'self-controlled' so important?
3. Read verse 7 again. In the context of this passage, what do you think we are being encouraged to pray for?
4. This passage isn't only a warning, it's a call to action. To serve the Lord. Pastor Peter defined serving the Lord as, "loving others the way Christ loved us, so that the mission of Christ is accomplished". Verse 8 said, "love each other deeply". Peter explained that the word deeply in greek is 'ektenés' which means fully stretched out. What is our potential to love others when we have the love of Christ within us? How does this fit with the definition of serving?
5. Verse 8 says, "Love covers over a multitude of sins." What does this mean? Also read 2 Cor 5:16. How should we view people? When we see people in this way, how does this affect the way we serve?

1 Cor 13:4-7 is a description of love. How many of the words describing love are feelings? How many are action words? Go through this description of love phrase by phrase and examine what each one means with regards to the way we serve God and others.
6. Read verse 9. Define hospitality. Some people really enjoy having people in their homes, others struggle with it. What does hospitality look like for both of these groups of people?
Does hospitality always have to do with inviting people into your home? What else can it be? (Note: The Greek word for hospitality is 'philoxenos' which literally means, loving strangers).
Why does Peter add: without grumbling? (Also read Phil 2:14-16a)
7. Verses 10 & 11 explain that we have all been gifted by God to serve in various ways. In fact, he says that we are ministers of the grace of God. Is it possible that if we don't use our gift to serve God and others, then someone might miss out on the grace of God? Explain.
8. We are to speak as though it were God Himself speaking, and serve with the strength God provides. How do we accomplish this?
9. The three aspects of serving (opposite) were: Love sees beyond someone's sin, love open's the door, and love get's involved. Add to that, the fact that there is an urgency. Now define what it means to serve.
10. How is God calling you to serve?