

The Way of Service

Scripture passage: Read aloud 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 and Acts 6:1-6

These verses show how the Holy Spirit gives every disciple of Jesus Christ unique spiritual gifts to fulfill God's calling for his or her servanthood. These become the means by which God's kingdom comes and God's will is done in and through our lives as we serve others in and outside the church.

Discussion Questions:

1. You are called to be a servant as a disciple of Jesus. How have you experienced awareness of this calling in your life? What are the ways you serve others now—formally or informally?
2. What is the difference between being a *servant* and a *volunteer*?
3. What are some of the spiritual gifts you have identified in your life? (Refer to sheets from last week)
4. Complete the *Service at St. Paul's Chart*. Are you currently using your gifts to serve in the church?
5. How might God use your gifts in serving outside the church?
6. Describe the most positive serving experience you have had (in church or elsewhere). How do you see God working in and through you?

Moving Forward:

Each disciple has a role in the body of Christ. Every disciple is called, gifted, and needed in the ministry of the church. As a disciple and servant of Christ, become an active participant in God's transformation of the world.

Closing Prayer:

Gracious and loving God, reveal your purpose for each of us and show us the paths that we should take. Help us to recognize and use the gifts you have given us. Teach us the way of servanthood that we may become the agents of your saving love in this world. Amen.

Prepare:

Read Chapter 6: The Way of Witness: *Invitational Evangelism*.

Get together with your prayer partner to share your prayer needs for the coming week. Pray together.