

# Finding Your Place: Serving

**Romans 12:3-7 (GW)** Because of the kindness that God has shown me, I ask you not to think of yourselves more highly than you should. Instead, your thoughts should lead you to use good judgment based on what God has given each of you as believers. (4) Our bodies have many parts, but these parts don't all do the same thing. (5) In the same way, even though we are many individuals, Christ makes us one body and individuals who are connected to each other. (6) God in his kindness gave each of us different gifts... (7) If your gift is serving, then devote yourself to serving.

## 1. Serving is your spiritual act of worship

**Romans 12:1(NIV)** ... I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship.

**Ephesians 6:6-7 (MSG)** Don't just do what you have to do to get by, but work heartily, as Christ's servants doing what God wants you to do. (7) And work with a smile on your face, always keeping in mind that no matter who happens to be giving the orders, you're really serving God.

**1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)** Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. (11) 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

## 2. We serve others by and through the grace of God

**Romans 7:6 (GW)** But now we have died to those laws that bound us. God has broken their effect on us so that we are serving in a new spiritual way, not in an old way dictated by written words.

**Galatians 5:13 (MSG)** It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom. Rather, use your freedom to serve one another in love; that's how freedom grows.

**1 Corinthians 1:10 (NIV)** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them--yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

## 3. Be on the lookout for where God wants you to serve and be known by it.

**1 Corinthians 3:10 (GW)** You are God's building. (10) As a skilled and experienced builder, I used the gift that God gave me to lay the foundation {for that building}. However, someone else is building on it. Each person must be careful how he builds on it.

**Ephesians 4:15-16 (GW)** ...Christ, who is the head. (16) He makes the whole body fit together and unites it through the support of every joint. As each and every part does its job, he makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

**James 2:18,26 (NLT)** Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds." (26) Just as the body is dead without breath, so also faith is dead without good works.