Discussion Guide: August 24th, 2025 Message Series: Church matters Message: Serving in the local church

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Take Home Truth: Life is so much better when you get in the dance

Focus Passages:

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) Let us think of ways to motivate one another to <u>acts of love and good works</u>. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Romans 12:6-8 (NLT) In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, <u>serve them well</u>. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to <u>serve one another.</u>

Matthew 25:21 (NIV) "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Galatians 5:13 (NLT) For <u>you have been called</u> to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to <u>serve one another</u> in love.

2 Corinthians 1:4 (NLT) He (God) comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Message Highlights:

• Why should I serve? <u>D</u>esigned to serve

• How do I serve? <u>Abilities, gifts and passions are given by God to serve others</u>

When should I start? Now

• Where do I serve? <u>Calling- serve where God calls you</u>

• Who should serve? <u>Every follower of Jesus</u>

Discussions Questions:

- 1. **Read Romans 12:6-8 and 1 Peter 4:10** What are some abilities, gifts and passions that God has given to you? How can you use them to serve and glorify God in the church? Are you doing what you were designed and commanded to do by serving?
- 2. **Read Matthew 25:21** Are you serving in such a way that you will hear Jesus say "Well done my good and faithful servant"? Why or why not?
- 3. **Read 2 Corinthians 1:4** Who are people you can help today because of what you went through in your past? Who are some people that you can invite to serve with you?
- 4. **Read Ephesians 2:10** Where do you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to get involved and start serving? What is it gonna take for you to stop spectating and get in the dance? If you are currently serving, what motivates you to keep serving?

Time Of Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the privilege of serving You by serving in your church. Thank you that you gave us all unique passions, gifts and abilities. I pray that we don't neglect our gifts but rather we follow the Holy Spirit's leading to serve faithfully. Please guide and direct us to areas we can serve in and people who need to experience the love of Jesus. Amen