

## Basic Disciplines for Believers

### Discipline #6: Selfless Serving

*God's purpose and plan in saving me involves my selfless serving of others for the growth of His body & the advancement of His kingdom.*

#### REVIEW of Last Week: Gifted to Serve

##### DEFINITION OF A SPIRITUAL GIFT:

An **enhanced ability**, given by the Holy Spirit by His divine choice to each and every believer, enabling one to perform a responsibility more perfectly for the benefit of other believers and for the ultimate purpose of building up the body of Christ.

##### CHAPTERS (TWO 12s, TWO 4s):

	G's	P's	A's
Rom 12	Gifts	Presents	Abilities
1 Cor 12	Group	Purpose	All needed
1 Peter 4	Gumption	Push	Aggressiveness
Eph 4	Guys	People	Appointees

##### HOW DO I KNOW WHAT GIFT(S) I HAVE BEEN GIVEN?

Identity	What are the gifts?
Subjectivity	What do I think I do exceptionally well?
Objectivity	What do others think I do exceptionally well?
Productivity	What results are gained when I do it?

##### WHAT DO I DO WITH MY SPIRITUAL GIFT?

<u>Activity</u>	Do it.
<u>Ministry</u>	For others.
<u>Consistency</u>	Regularly.
<u>Maturity</u>	While Getting Better.
<u>Intensity</u>	With All The Ability God Has Given Me.

#### Rewarded for Serving

##### 1. God Will Reward Serving as Being to Him Directly

*Matt 25:31-46*<sup>31</sup> "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.<sup>32</sup> "All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup> "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: <sup>35</sup> 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; <sup>36</sup> 'I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' <sup>37</sup> "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink? <sup>38</sup> 'When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*? <sup>39</sup> 'Or when did we see You

sick, or in prison, and come to You?' <sup>40</sup> "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.' <sup>41</sup> "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: <sup>42</sup> 'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; <sup>43</sup> 'I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' <sup>44</sup> "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' <sup>45</sup> "Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.' <sup>46</sup> "And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

*Col 3:23-24*<sup>23</sup> And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

##### 2. God Will Reward Us for Serving Our Enemies

*Matt 5:44-48*<sup>44</sup> "But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, <sup>45</sup> "that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup> "For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> "And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others*? Do not even the tax collectors do so? <sup>48</sup> "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

##### 3. God Will Reward Us Openly for Serving Quietly

*Matt 6:3-4*<sup>3</sup> "But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup> "that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

##### 4. God Will Reward Us in Proportion to Our Ability and Circumstance

*Matt 10:41-42*<sup>41</sup> "He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. <sup>42</sup> "And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold *water* in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward."

##### 5. God Will Reward Us When He Returns

*Matt 16:24-27*<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. <sup>25</sup> "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? <sup>27</sup> "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works.

*Rev 22:12* "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward *is* with Me, to give to every one according to his work.