

LESSON 24

Every Believer Has a Role to Play

10: Stewardship and Service

Executive Summary

Every believer has a meaningful place in the body of Christ. The Spirit distributes gifts so Christians can serve one another, strengthen the church, and display God's grace through faithful action. No gift makes one believer superior, and no member is unnecessary. Christian service grows from humility, love, and a willingness to use what God has entrusted wherever the body has need.

Key Terms

Spiritual Gifts	Spirit-given abilities entrusted to believers for serving others and building up the church.
Service	Using God's gifts for His glory and the good of others, especially in the life of the church.
Body of Christ	The church as one spiritual body whose members belong to Christ and serve one another with distinct gifts.
Calling	God's summons to belong to Christ and faithfully serve Him in the responsibilities and opportunities He gives.

Key Verses

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 Peter 4:10

10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

Romans 12:4-8

4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Application Questions

1. Why does God give different spiritual gifts to different believers?

2. How does the picture of the church as one body show that every believer matters?

3. What ability or experience has God given you that could help someone else?

4. What need in your church could you help meet through a simple act of service?
