

Motivational Gift of Serving/Helps

Romans 12:7AMP [He whose gift is] practical service, let him give himself to serving

1 Corinthians 12:28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

Definition:

Helps: To aid and provide assistance

Serve: Ministry, service, helping others

Description:

The gift of service is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the body of Christ to identify unmet needs involved in a task related to God's work, and to make use of available resources to meet those needs and help accomplish the desired goals.

Usually:

- Available
- Willing
- Helpful
- Reliable
- Dependable
- Loyal
- Humble
- Supportive

Scriptural Examples:

- Jesus is the greatest example of a server. He divested himself of deity to become a man and serve. See Philippians 2:3-8. Just prior to his death he demonstrated the act of serving to his disciples by washing their feet.
- Martha (Luke 10:38-42)
- Joseph Served Potiphar and Pharaoh faithfully
- Timothy served Paul faithfully
- Elisha served Elijah faithfully
- Peter's Mother-in-law (Matthew 8:14-15)
- Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2)

Characteristics:

1. They Serve behind the scenes wherever needed to support the gifts and ministries of others
2. They Look for opportunities to assist people in their work
3. Their motivation is to meet needs as quickly as possible
4. They are alert to the likes and dislikes of others
5. They find the small and practical things that need to be done and enjoy doing them without being asked
6. They have need for approval, and respond well to praise and appreciation
7. They sometimes disregard their own health and interests for the sake of others (Mark 1:32-35; Mark 20:21; Philippians 2:29; Romans 16:3)
8. They sense God's purpose and special meaning in fulfilling regular and needful hands-on tasks
9. They take pleasure in meeting every day responsibilities
10. They enjoy doing routine tasks in the church that would bore others
11. They do not want public praise
12. They would rather do a job than find someone else to do it
13. They are team players and willing to go the extra mile
14. They do not mind doing jobs by themselves
15. They need to stay busy
16. They will even use their own funds to get a job done quickly
17. They can usually detect ways to serve before anyone else can
18. They work well on short term goals
19. They often serve in skilled professions because it helps them serve in practical ways: nurse, plumber. *Ex. Paul was a tentmaker.*
20. They desire to be with other people to serve them
21. They have endurance and stamina to continue to work hard for a long time (2 Timothy 1:16-18)
22. They don't allow themselves to be served by others

Misuse/Misunderstanding of gift:

1. Tend to over-commit and find it hard to say no
2. Need to be responsive to the priorities of leadership, instead of setting their own agendas
3. Become proud of what they do
4. Not considering themselves important to the kingdom. They need to esteem their gift, remembering that doing practical deeds is a spiritual contribution to the body of Christ
5. Depending too much on praise or acceptance of others; they can resent lack of appreciation
6. They can come across as pushy until the job is done
7. Sometimes more concerned with serving than with spiritual matters (such as devotions)
8. They can complain or be critical against those who don't serve
9. Quickness in meeting needs may interfere with spiritual lessons God is teaching those with needs, thus interfering with God's discipline
10. Insistence on serving may appear to be rejection of being served

Service is the backbone of church

11. Giving un-requested help – can appear to be pushy
12. Neglecting on God-given priorities – needs to learn to delegate in order to serve more

Complimenting Gifts:

- Hospitality
- Mercy

Ministries:

- Deacon/deaconess
- Community services
- Teacher's aides
- Nursery attendant
- Church secretary

Other Examples:

- Taking out garbage
- Maintenance; repair jobs
- Cleaning building
- Mowing lawn
- Doing Dishes

Scriptures:

Exodus 17:11-13 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

1 Chronicles 12:22 For at that time they came to David day by day to help him, until it was a great army, like the army of God.

Matthew 23:11 But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Luke 23:50-54 Now behold, there was a man named Joseph, a council member, a good and just man. 51 He had not consented to their decision and deed. He was from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who himself was also waiting for the kingdom of God. 52 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. 53 Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a tomb [that] [was] hewn out of the rock, where no one had ever lain before. 54 That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath drew near.

John 13:14 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

Acts 6:2-3 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

Acts 9:36 At Joppa there was a certain disciple named Tabitha, which is translated Dorcas. This woman was full of good works and charitable deeds which she did.

Acts 20:34-35 "Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. 35 "I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Romans 16:1-2 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, 2 that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.

Romans 16:3-4 Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:9-10 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Philippians 2:19-30 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. 20 For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. 21 For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. 22 But you know his proven character, that as a son with [his] father he served with me in the gospel. 23 Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. 24 But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly. 25 Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; 26 since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. 27 For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. 28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. 29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; 30 because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Philippians 2:3-8 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

1 Timothy 6:2 And those who have believing masters, let them not despise them because they are brethren, but rather serve them because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

2 Timothy 1:16-18 The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain; 17 but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me. 18 The Lord grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day--and you know very well how many ways he ministered to me at Ephesus.

Titus 3:14 And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful

Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.