



SERVE PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

OCTOBER 18, 2020

TAKEAWAY:

Christians are saved to glorify the Lord. One means of doing this is serving others in the church and faithfully stewarding the gifts that have been given to them by the Father.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:

All Christians are meant to serve one another for the building up of the church and the glory of God. Further, we should love our neighbors by serving them.

GOSPEL CONNECTION:

Jesus has served us in the ultimate way by going to the cross in our place.

INTRODUCTION

- 1 When was the last time you had to take prescription medication?
- 2 What is the role of a doctor in prescribing medicine compared with a pharmacist?

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

> Read 1 Peter 4:10.

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

- According to 1 Peter 4:10, who receives gifts from God?
- What is a spiritual gift? How does one obtain a spiritual gift?

> Read 1 Peter 4:11.

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.

- Peter wrote that Christians should use their gifts as “faithful stewards.” What did he mean?
- According to this verse, how are Christians to serve?
- Why must we depend on God's strength as we exercise spiritual gifts to serve others?

> Read Matthew 25:14-30.

“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ ²¹ “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!’ ²² “The man with the two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’ ²³ “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!’ ²⁴ “Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ ²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. ²⁸ “Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

- What can we learn from this passage about God’s intention for the spiritual gifts Christians steward?
- Thinking back to 1 Peter 4:10-11, why does God want Christians to serve others?
- What does the command to serve others have to do with the gospel of Jesus Christ?

APPLICATION

- 1 How have you been challenged today to recognize that if you are in Christ, then you have received spiritual gifts to be used for His glory?
- 2 How are you currently seeking to serve others? If you are not, how might you begin to think about this and take action toward obedience to Christ?
- 3 How can our service to others give opportunity to share the good news of Jesus?

THIS WEEK

- Memorize 1 Peter 4:10
- Read Galatians 5:13-14 on Monday
- Read Luke 6:38 on Tuesday
- Read Ephesians 2:10 on Wednesday
- Read Galatians 6:9 on Thursday
- Read James 2:14-17 on Friday
- Read Philippians 2:1-11 on Saturday