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**STEPPING
OUT IN FAITH**
FOUR PART SERIES

THE THIRD STEP - **SERVICE**

1 Peter 4:10-11 KJV

[10] As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. [11] If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

We are the way God gets his work done. He equips us to carry out his will and blesses us each time.

God Has Given Every Believer Gifts:

SPIRITUAL GIFT: A divinely given endowment that allows us to serve him effectually and successfully.

TALENT: A special skill not necessarily connected to our faith.

Ephesians 4:11-12 KJV

[11] And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; [12] For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

1 Corinthians 12:4-10 KJV

[4] Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. [5] And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. [6] And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. [7] But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. [8] For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; [9] To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; [10] To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

In reference to the tongues in verse 10 above...

Acts 2:5-6 KJV

[5] And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. [6] Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

Romans 12:4-8 KJV

[4] For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: [5] So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. [6] Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; [7] Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; [8] Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

We are to Exercise Our Gifts in Service to One Another in the Power of the Holy Spirit:

God has a purpose for every believer after he saves them that involves their specific spiritual gift to work on his behalf to accomplish his will.

Mark 10:45 KJV

For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Colossians 3:22-23 KJV

[22] Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God: [23] And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

There are seven spiritual gifts:

1. Prophecy
2. Exhortation
3. Teaching
4. Mercy
5. Service
6. Giving
7. Organization

The purpose for which God has given us these gifts:

1. Employ it. Put it to work serving one another.
2. We are to serve one another "...as good (and excellent) servants."
3. Servanthood is our avenue into the lives of others.
4. Whatever our service may be, it is The Lord whom we serve, *NOT MAN*.

Why do believers fail to act on their gift and serve the Lord:

5. Ignorant of scripture
6. Insecurities
7. Guilt feelings
8. Fear of failure
9. Lazy
10. Unwilling to make a commitment
11. Lack of love and caring for others
12. Selfish with their time
13. Poor managers of their time
14. Comparing themselves to someone else
15. Continually living in sin

How are you using the talent?

Are you doing your best?

Do you know your spiritual gift?

Are you interested in serving God with your gift?

If we are unable to be criticized in a godly fashion we will never grow spiritually