

SERVE 301

*AS EACH HAS RECEIVED A GIFT, USE IT TO SERVE
ONE... ANOTHER 1PETER 4:10*



Student Handbook

SERVE AT A GLANCE



Welcome to the SERVE Discipleship Series! This workbook is designed to guide you as you grow in your walk with God. Whether you are just beginning your discipleship journey or have been walking with God for years, the SERVE series is created to meet you where you are and help you move toward where God is calling you next.

We encourage you to take your time, be honest in your journaling, and approach this experience with an open heart. You are not just studying, you are becoming.

In this handbook, you'll find:

- Scripture overviews for context
- Fill-in-the-blank notes to follow along
- Key passages to study and explore
- Journaling and discussion prompts
- Guided prayers and affirmations
- Space to reflect on what God is showing you

Optional but helpful:

- Sticky notes or page flags
- A quiet space for prayer and study
- A partner or group to share the journey with

Remember, this isn't just a study, it's a transformation. Take your time, be honest, and stay open to what God is doing in you.



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 1: Serving Like Jesus – The Heart Behind Our Hands

Main Scripture: Mark 10:45 (NRSV)

“For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Scriptural Overview: Jesus redefined greatness. In a world where people chase position, recognition, and status, Jesus taught that true greatness is found in serving others. He didn’t come demanding honor. He came to serve and give. Every act of service, whether seen or unseen, reflects His heart and advances His kingdom. Serving like Jesus means approaching others with humility, love, and generosity. It means setting aside pride and choosing to meet needs, even when it costs us comfort. And as we serve, we grow because serving transforms both the giver and the receiver.

Introduction: This lesson calls us to shift our mindset from seeking to be served to seeking to serve. When we serve with the heart of Christ, we reflect His love and draw others closer to Him.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Jesus redefined _____ as service, not status.

Mark 10:45 teaches that Jesus came not to _____, but to _____. True service flows from a heart of _____ and _____. Philippians 2:5–8 shows us that Jesus humbled Himself by becoming _____. Serving like Jesus means choosing _____ over recognition.

Scripture Exploration

Mark 10:42–45 – Greatness comes through _____.

Philippians 2:5–8 – Jesus showed us how to serve by humbling Himself and becoming _____.

John 13:12–17 – Jesus gave us an _____ of service by washing His disciples’ feet.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Out-Loud Reflection)


Who in your life reflects Jesus-style servanthood? What do they do that stands out? What’s one way you can serve this week without seeking credit? What holds you back from serving more fully or joyfully?


Journal Prompt: Write about one person in your life who could benefit from your intentional act of service this week. What’s one step you can take to serve them with humility and love?


Creative Reflection Space

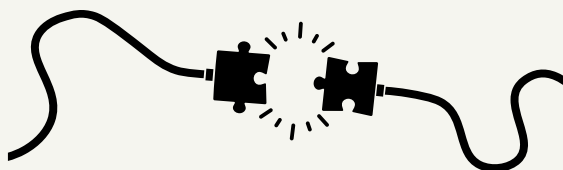
My Service Map

Who served me or inspired me?  _____

What did they teach me about serving?  _____

Who is God calling me to serve now?  _____

What can I do this week?  _____



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 2: Gifted to Serve – Using God’s Gifts for God’s Glory

Main Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10 (NRSV)

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.”

Scriptural Overview: God has given every believer gifts, which are meant to be used in serving others, not stored away or used for personal gain. 1 Peter 4:10 calls us to be good stewards of these gifts, recognizing that they are expressions of God’s grace. Our gifts are unique, but their purpose is shared: to build up the body of Christ and bring glory to God. When we understand that our gifts are part of a larger mission, we stop comparing, hiding, or doubting what God has placed within us. Instead, we use what we have with joy, knowing that together, our gifts create a stronger, healthier church.

Introduction: This lesson invites us to see our spiritual gifts as tools for service, not status. When we use our gifts faithfully, we reflect God’s heart and help His kingdom grow.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Our gifts are not for ourselves—they are for _____.

1 Peter 4:10 calls us to be good _____ of God’s grace.

There are different gifts, but the same _____ gives them.

Spiritual gifts are given for the _____ good of the body.

Using our gifts is an act of _____ and _____.

Scripture Exploration

1 Peter 4:10 – We are called to serve others with the gifts we have _____.

1 Corinthians 12:4–7 – There are different kinds of gifts, but the same _____.

Romans 12:6–8 – We are to use our gifts in _____ to our faith.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Out-loud Reflection)

What is one gift you believe God has given you? How have you seen someone else’s gift bless your life?



What sometimes holds you back from using your gifts fully?

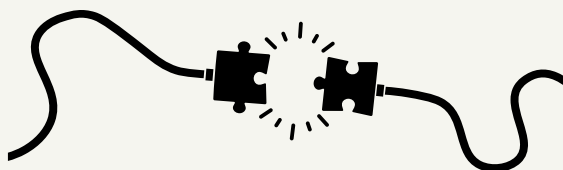
Journal Prompt

Write about one way you can use your gifts this week to serve your family, church, or community. What step will you take to put that plan into action?

Creative Reflection Space

My Gift Map

What is one gift God has given me?  _____ Where can I use this gift? 



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 3: Serving in Unity – One Body, Many Parts

Main Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NRSV)

“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.”

Scriptural Overview: The Church is like a body composed of many distinct parts. Each of us has a unique role to play, and every role matters. Paul teaches that we are designed to work together, not apart. Just as our physical bodies need all their parts working in harmony, the Church needs every believer serving together in unity. Serving in unity means celebrating the diversity of gifts and strengths God has given each person. It means recognizing that no part is too small or unimportant. When we work together, we reflect God’s plan and build up His kingdom in love.

Introduction

This lesson challenges us to see our service as part of something bigger. We are not called to serve alone but to serve alongside one another, working together as one body in Christ.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

The Church is like a _____ with many parts.

Each part is _____ and _____.

1 Corinthians 12 teaches that all parts are _____ in the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4 tells us to make every effort to maintain the bond of _____.

Unity is strengthened through _____, _____, and _____.

Scripture Exploration

1 Corinthians 12:12–20 – We are one body with many _____.

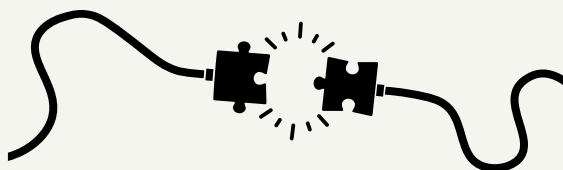
Ephesians 4:1–6 – We are called to maintain unity through the bond of _____.

Romans 12:4–5 – We are members _____ of another.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Group Reflection)

When have you seen God’s people serve powerfully as a team? What makes it hard to serve together in unity? What can you personally do to strengthen unity where you serve?

Journal Prompt: Write about one way you can support or encourage someone else’s gift or role this week. How will you intentionally build unity through your actions?



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Lesson 4: Serving with Integrity – Faithful in What We Do and How We Do It

Main Scripture: Colossians 3:23–24 (NRSV)

“Whatever your task, put yourselves into it, as done for the Lord and not for your masters, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.”

Scriptural Overview: Integrity means that what we do in public matches what we do in private. It’s about serving with the right heart, for the right reason, whether or not anyone else notices. Paul reminds us in Colossians that our work—whatever it is—should be done as an offering to God. Jesus taught the same in Matthew 6, encouraging us to serve quietly, seeking God’s reward, not applause. When we serve with integrity, our actions reflect God’s character. Integrity in service brings consistency, honor, and lasting impact. It means we serve not for show, but as an actual act of worship.

Introduction: This lesson calls us to examine our hearts. It invites us to align our motives with God’s purpose so that our service reflects His love and truth.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Integrity means serving with the right _____ for the right _____.

Colossians 3:23 tells us to serve as if we are working for _____.

Jesus teaches in Matthew 6 that we should serve and give in _____.

Proverbs 11:3 reminds us that integrity _____ the upright.

True integrity shines when no one is _____ but God.

Scripture Exploration

Colossians 3:23–24 – We serve the _____, not just people.

Matthew 6:1–4 – Serve and give without seeking _____.

Proverbs 11:3 – Integrity is what _____ and guides us.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Out-loud Reflection)

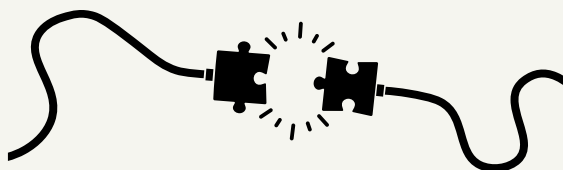
What does it mean to you to serve with integrity? Where in your life do you feel God calling you to serve more faithfully in secret? How can you remind yourself to seek God’s approval above human recognition?

Journal Prompt: Write about one area of your life where you can serve with greater integrity this week. What step will you take to offer your service as worship to God?

Creative Reflection Space

My Integrity Check

What is one way I serve now?  _____



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 5: Serving Through Trials – Faithfulness in the Storm

Main Scripture: James 1:2–4 (NRSV)

“My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.”

Scriptural Overview: Serving during trials is not easy, but it is powerful. James reminds us that trials test our faith and help us grow in endurance, maturity, and strength. When we choose to keep serving through challenges, we allow God to work in us and through us. Our trials don’t stop our calling; they refine it. Serving in difficult times demonstrates to the world that God is our strength. It encourages others and deepens our faith. The way we serve during difficulties can leave a lasting impact, pointing people to the hope and grace of Jesus.

Introduction: This lesson helps us see trials not as reasons to quit serving, but as opportunities to grow stronger in faith and more faithful in our service.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Trials test our _____ and build our _____.

James teaches us to consider it _____ when we face trials.

1 Peter 4 reminds us that we serve others as good _____ of God’s grace.

Romans 5 teaches that suffering produces _____, and hope does not _____ us.

Serving through trials points others to God’s _____ and _____.

Scripture Exploration

James 1:2–4 – The testing of our faith produces _____.

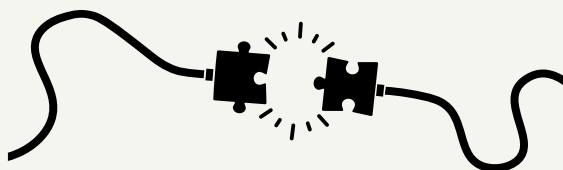
1 Peter 4:10–13 – We are to serve one another even as we share in _____.

Romans 5:3–5 – Suffering produces endurance, character, and _____.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Out-loud Reflection)

When have you seen someone serve faithfully through trials? What did it teach you? How does serving during hard times help your faith grow? Where do you feel God calling you to stay faithful in service, even when it’s hard?

Journal Prompt: Write about a trial you’ve faced that shaped how you serve others today. How did God use that experience to strengthen your heart for service?



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 6: Serving with Compassion – Reflecting the Heart of Christ

Main Scripture: Matthew 9:36 (NRSV)

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Scriptural Overview: Jesus’ service was fueled by compassion. When He looked at the crowds, He didn’t see a problem—He saw people who were lost, hurting, and in need of love. His compassion moved Him to heal, teach, and care. That same compassion should fuel our service today. Serving with compassion means seeing people the way God sees them and responding with kindness, mercy, and love. It turns simple acts of service into powerful reflections of God’s heart.

Introduction: This lesson challenges us to check the heart behind our service. It’s not just about what we do, but how and why we do it. Compassion makes our service meaningful and impactful.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Compassion means seeing people through God’s _____.

Matthew 9:36 shows Jesus was moved by compassion for the _____ and _____.

Colossians 3:12 tells us to clothe ourselves with _____, kindness, humility, and patience.

The Good Samaritan’s compassion led him to take _____.

True compassion leads to acts of _____ that reflect God’s love.

Scripture Exploration

Matthew 9:35–36 – Jesus had compassion because the people were like _____ without a shepherd.

Colossians 3:12 – We are to clothe ourselves with _____.

Luke 10:33–37 – The Samaritan showed compassion by _____.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Group Reflection)

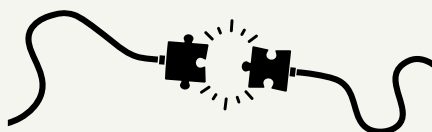
When have you experienced someone’s compassionate service? How did it impact you? Where is God calling you to serve with more compassion right now? What can keep us from showing compassion when we serve?

Journal Prompt: Write about one act of compassion you can offer this week. Who needs it, and what step will you take?

Creative Reflection Space

My Compassion Map

Where can I show compassion this week?  _____



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 7: Serving with Excellence – Giving God Our Best

Main Scripture: Colossians 3:17 (NRSV)

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Scriptural Overview: Serving with excellence means giving God our best in everything we do, not because we want to impress people, but because we want to honor God. Paul reminds us in Colossians that every word and action is an opportunity to glorify God. Excellence is not about being perfect; it’s about being faithful, intentional, and wholehearted. Service excellence reflects our love for God and our gratitude for His grace. Whether we are doing big tasks or small, seen or unseen, we are called to give our best because we are serving in Jesus’ name.

Introduction

This lesson invites us to approach all service as worship. It challenges us to move beyond “good enough” and offer our best in every task as an offering to God.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Excellence means giving God our _____ in all we do.
Colossians 3:17 teaches us to do everything in the name of _____.
Matthew 25 shows that God rewards _____ in small things.
Ecclesiastes 9:10 tells us to work with all our _____.
Excellence is not perfection—it is _____ effort for God’s glory.

Scripture Exploration

Colossians 3:17 – Do everything in the name of _____.
Matthew 25:20–23 – God rewards those who are _____ with what they are given.
Ecclesiastes 9:10 – Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your _____.

Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Out-loud Reflection)


When have you seen someone serve with excellence? How did it affect you? What’s one small task in your life where you can show greater faithfulness? Why is excellence important in Christian service?

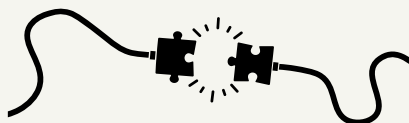
Journal Prompt

Write about one task, big or small, that you will commit to doing with greater excellence this week. How will you offer it as a sacrifice of worship to God?

Creative Reflection Space

My Excellence Map

What task will I give my best to this week?  _____



SERVE Discipleship Series: Participant Workbook

Lesson 8: Empowered to Serve Others – Strengthened by God for His Work

Main Scripture: Acts 1:8 (NRSV)

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Scriptural Overview: God does not ask us to serve Him in our own strength. Before Jesus sent out His followers to be His witnesses, He promised them the power of the Holy Spirit. That same Spirit lives in us today, equipping us to serve with boldness, love, and endurance. Serving with God’s power means trusting that He will provide the courage, wisdom, and strength we need. We are not alone in our service. God is working through us to do more than we could ever do on our own. As we finish this SERVE series, remember: this is not the end, but the beginning of your journey as an empowered servant of Christ.

Introduction: This final lesson invites you to reflect on how God has shaped your heart for service. It is both a teaching and a celebration a reminder that you are ready to go forward, equipped and strengthened by the Spirit, to serve wherever God leads.

Fill-in-the-Blank Notes

Acts 1:8 teaches that we receive _____ through the Holy Spirit.
The Spirit empowers us to be _____ for Christ. 2 Corinthians 12 reminds us that God’s power is made perfect in our _____. Ephesians 3 teaches that God can do _____ than we ask or imagine. We serve not in our own strength, but through God’s _____ at work in us.

Scripture Exploration

Acts 1:8—The Spirit empowers us to be Christ’s _____.

2 Corinthians 12:9–10 – God’s power is made perfect in _____.

Ephesians 3:20–21 – God is able to do far _____ than we can imagine.


Discussion Prompts (For Journaling or Group Reflection)

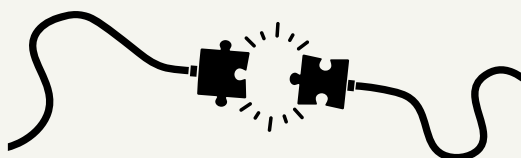
How has your understanding of service changed through this journey? Where do you see God calling you to serve now? What step will you take to live out what you’ve learned?


Journal Prompt: Write a prayer of dedication as you finish this SERVE 301 series. Ask God to use your hands, heart, and gifts for His glory.


Creative Reflection Space

My Servant’s Declaration

What lesson from SERVE 301 will guide me most?  _____



Where will I serve next?  _____

Who can I encourage to serve with me?  _____

Reflection Space

“Lord, I thank You for all You’ve taught me in this season. I dedicate my service to You. Use me, empower me, and send me to love and serve in Your name.”

Affirmation

I am a servant of Christ, empowered by His Spirit.

I am ready to serve with compassion, integrity, unity, and excellence.

This is not the end—it is my new beginning in faithful service.

With God’s help, I will go forward boldly for His glory.

SERVE 301 Completion Blessing (closing ceremony)

“Well done, good and faithful servant.” (Matthew 25:21, NRSV)

As you complete SERVE 301, take a moment to pause and reflect on your experience. This is more than the end of a course it is the beginning of a new chapter in your journey of service. God has shaped your heart, strengthened your spirit, and equipped your hands for His work. You are called, empowered, and sent. The lessons you’ve studied, compassion, integrity, unity, excellence, endurance, and reliance on the Spirit, are not just ideas. They are seeds planted in your life, ready to bear fruit in your church, your community, and the world.

Final Reflection


“Lord, I thank You for what You’ve done in me through SERVE 301. I offer You my life, my gifts, my hands, and my heart. Strengthen me to serve with joy, humility, and faithfulness. Let my service reflect Your love and bring You glory. Send me, Lord. I am ready. Amen.”

My Commitment

I will serve God by:

 _____

I will trust God’s strength in:

 _____

I will invite someone to join me in serving by:

 _____

Blessing: *Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit. Serve with boldness, love, and humility. May your service bring light to the world and glory to God. Amen.*