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## God saved you FROM something, FOR something

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)** - <sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Good works don't save you...good works are the fruit of being saved.

**1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)** - <sup>10</sup>God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

**1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NLT)** - <sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

We all have different gifts but it is the same God that gives us those gifts and it is the same God we are serving with those gifts.

**1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)** - <sup>7</sup>A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

Every single follower of Jesus is given a gift to use to serve the body of Christ

**1 Corinthians 12:8-11 (NLT)** - <sup>8</sup>To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. <sup>9</sup>The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. <sup>10</sup>He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophecy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. <sup>11</sup>It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

Paul also talks about other gifts –

**Romans 12:6-8 (NLT)** - <sup>6</sup>In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophecy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. <sup>7</sup>If your gift is servicing others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. <sup>8</sup>If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

The Holy Spirit is the one who gives us these gifts, and He decides what gift we are given. We don't decide that we want to have a specific gift and then all of the sudden we have it.

Usually how this works . . .



**1 Corinthians 12:12-27 (NLT)** - <sup>12</sup> The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit. <sup>14</sup> Yes, the body has many different parts, not just one part. <sup>15</sup> If the foot says, "I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand," that does not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear says, "I am not part of the body because I am not an eye," would that make it any less a part of the body? <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything? <sup>18</sup> But our bodies have many parts, and God has put each part just where he wants it. <sup>19</sup> How strange a body would be if it had only one part! <sup>20</sup> Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." <sup>22</sup> In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. <sup>23</sup> And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, <sup>24</sup> while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. <sup>25</sup> This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. <sup>27</sup> All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

**We are all called to serve the body of Christ...the church. We are called to serve in all areas of our lives.**

- Spouses, serve one another. You want a thriving marriage? Try to out serve the other
- Parents, serve your kids
- Kids, serve your parents
- Employees, serve your boss. You want God to honor you in your job? Serve.
- Employers, serve your employees. You want God to honor you in your Job? Serve
- Serve your neighbor
- Serve the people in this room. This is your spiritual family and we are called to serve one another...



**Get in the game!**

**There are 52 different ways you can serve in our campus... Scan the QR Code to see.**

**So, what is holding you back from being more of what God created you to be?**

**Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)** - *But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.*

**Insecurities? Scripture says . . . 1 Timothy 1:12-17 (NLT)** - <sup>12</sup> I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do his work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve him, <sup>13</sup> even though I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted his people. But God had mercy on me because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. <sup>14</sup> Oh, how generous and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. <sup>16</sup> But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup> All honor and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen.

**Life? Scripture says . . . Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NLT)** - *For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. <sup>2</sup> A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. <sup>3</sup> A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. <sup>4</sup> A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. <sup>5</sup> A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. <sup>6</sup> A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to keep and a time to throw away. <sup>7</sup> A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak. <sup>8</sup> A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.*

**Speak to living it out . . . Galatians 6:9 (NLT)** - <sup>9</sup> So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.





