

Serving in the Lord's Treasury, Part III

1. We Are Called by Christ into His Body Together (1-6).

2. The King Gives Gifts to His People for His Purposes (7-11).

3. Our Growth Together Glorifies Christ, Our Head (12-16).

CONCLUSION: Our King, Jesus Christ, is establishing His Kingdom throughout all the earth. He has called us into this Kingdom and has given us gifts, talents, and treasures for that Kingdom's flourishing. By faith in Christ we are to use all of those resources, including human resources, to His glory in building His Kingdom. Our relationships are part of our faithfully stewarding His good gifts. Let us love and serve one another together to the praise of our glorious King.

First Peter 4: 7 – 11

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:**¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 68: 1 – 35

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;

and those who hate him shall flee before him!

² As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away;

as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!

³ But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God;

they shall be jubilant with joy!

⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to his name;

lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;

his name is the Lord; exult before him!

⁵ Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

⁶ God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

...

¹⁸ You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train

and receiving gifts among men,

even among the rebellious, that the Lord God may dwell there.

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. *Selah*

²⁰ Our God is a God of salvation,

and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

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³⁴ Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel,

and whose power is in the skies.

³⁵ Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—

he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God!

Taking Gathered Worship Home

How do we manage and enjoy the human resources King Jesus is deploying for the advancement of His Kingdom? Do we realize that *God has blessed us with relationships* for this purpose? How are we serving our King in this way? What gifts has the King entrusted to your care that you have been keeping to yourself? How can we change that?

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35; First Peter 4:7-11**. DISCUSS, How does a biblical view of stewardship transform the way we look at relationships? How are we faithfully managing and enjoying the people with whom God has blessed us? PRAY “Jesus, You are Lord of all. Please help us to serve you through our care for one another together as a congregation at FCCW.”

Sunday Evening

Young Adults Fellowship at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW’s Library!*

Monday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35**. DISCUSS, Paul quotes from Psalm 68. In that Psalm God is described in relation to His victory over His enemies and His care of His people. How does this relational description apply to us? As God’s stewards what is our role? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Lord, You are faithful in all Your ways. Help us to be faithful too.”

Tuesday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; James 1:16-22**. DISCUSS, From whom do our gifts come? How are we to use them? What is the role of Scripture? How are you using the gifts God has given you? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Jesus, thank You for being a trustworthy and good master. Teach us to be doers of Your Word. Enable us to invest in the good gifts You have given us and make use of them for Your Kingdom.”

Wednesday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 2:6-15** DISCUSS, Here we see our connection with King Jesus in relationship to others. What does it mean to be in Christ? How is the different from those who are against Him? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Jesus, thank You for giving us new life in you and connecting us with Your body.”

Thursday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 1:24-29**. DISCUSS, Paul was able to rejoice in his sufferings because they ultimately benefitted his brothers and sisters in Colossae. How was he able to do that? What are ways that you are sacrificing to benefit others? How does your faith in Christ enable you to do that? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Lord, enable us to walk in Your ways. Guide us in Your truth.”

Friday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35; First Peter 4:7-11**. DISCUSS, Who determines which gifts we receive? What are we supposed to use them for? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY for faithfulness at FCCW and revival throughout the area.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 18:1-28**. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors too!

First Corinthians 12: 7

*“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good.”*