

# Serving Gift

## **“Serving”** – The Toolbox

**Romans 12:7** “If your grace-gift is serving, then Thrive in serving others well.”

**Core Question:** What needs are there? How can I help?

### **See a need & fill it**

- Revelational problem solving.
- Heightened awareness of needs
- Great ideas to better processes.
- Creative and/or inventive.



### **1. Expression of Christ:**

- a. He cares about our needs
  - i. Salvation - **Galatians 3:13**
  - ii. Feeding the 5000 – **Mark 6**
  - iii. Water into wine – **John 2**

### **2. Strengths:**

- a. Intense ability to recognize the practical needs in a situation
- b. Meticulous way of working, taking care for excellence
- c. Strong vision for making the camp work
- d. Can often be a genius with their hands
- e. If a tool is missing, they can find a way to replicate it.

### **3. Weaknesses:**

- a. Can hide behind their serving when God is calling them to something scary.
- b. Put others' needs before their own in an unhealthy way – personal life can suffer
- c. Can attempt unrealistic pursuits – *you must discern your times and seasons!*
- d. Can neglect personal, family, marriage priorities over the needs of others.

### **4. Blind Spots:**

- a. Unaware of their fuel tank level – *burnout can happen if they're not surrendered to Christ in obedience over needs.*
- b. Could become driven to get jobs done over seeing people's feelings.
- c. Might come across as angry when things don't work as planned – *live in GRACE*
- d. Often forsakes investing in their spiritual life becoming too task focused
  - i. **Matthew 6:33** “Seek first the kingdom...”

### **5. When Tired or Unhealthy**

- a. Frustration with not being able to meet every need they see
- b. Feeling like a failure
- c. Overwhelmed with the needs around them – *It's ok, you are not Jesus!*
- d. Sometimes they will resist rest, seeing it as laziness.

**6. When Maturing in Temperance:**

- a. Hold healthy boundaries; flex your “NO” muscle
- b. Keenly discerns times and seasons; knowing your “yes” and “no”
- c. Value will come from your identity in Christ – you are not what you do!
- d. Communication skills will grow and mature
- e. Healthy confidence in the upgrades God gives them

**7. The Enemy may Accuse:**

- a. “You’re not doing enough”, “You’re lazy”
- b. Self-rejection – can feel unseen or not honored
- c. “You’re not spiritual enough”

**8. Wisdom for Maturity:**

- a. Be still and know (reflect and see) that God is in the now
- b. Make your personal health a priority – when you’re healthy, your relationships are healthy.
- c. Allow yourself to receive comfort and encouragement from others.
- d. Learn to rest – “cease to flow from within”

**9. Function in the Church:**

- a. Servant leadership
- b. Functional needs – charity events, functional benevolence, poor and widows.
- c. Activate the Body to be the hands and feet of Christ.
- d. Show the way to practical service and meeting needs of the community.

**10. Function in the Marketplace:**

- a. Meeting needs of people – see a problem, find a solution and act.
- b. Entrepreneurial – invent or reinvent solutions to problems through business.
- c. Being a business owner is advantageous since they value agency.
- d. Don’t get stuck in a job positions or field when God says to move

**11. Wisdom in Marriage:**

- a. Tend to the needs of your marriage
- b. Grow in communication with your spouse – listen and articulate your needs
- c. Be present – Mary vs. Martha
- d. Tend to your spiritual and physical health – two halves don’t make a whole
- e. Boundaries

**12. Wisdom in Parenting:**

- a. Don’t let your kids watch you serve everybody’s need and forsake theirs
- b. Teach your kids to be self-sufficient; not every need should be met
- c. Be careful of burnout because of filling needs in an unhealthy way
- d. Presence over perfection – Mary vs. Martha
- e. Boundaries