



SEMESTER 1 - WEEK 6

DISCIPLINE 3 - SERVING IN THE CHURCH

God's Design for Growth

God's design for growth in the church [Ephesians 4:11-16]

- Believers bear fruit

The proper motivations for service in the church

- The imminence of the end [**1 Peter 4:7-11**]
- Love for God [**Mark 12:30-31**]
- Love for one another
- Desire for Christ to be known by the unbelieving [**John 13:35**]
- Reward! [**1 Corinthians 3:8; 11 Corinthians 5:10**]

Hindrances to usefulness in the body

- Wickedness
 - **2 Timothy 2:19-22**

- Laziness
 - **Proverbs 18:9**

 - **Ephesians 5:16**

- Selfishness
 - **Philippians 2:3-5**



Aids to maximizing your usefulness in the body

- Actively pursue spiritual growth [sanctification]
 - **2 Timothy 2:21**

- Rejoice in God's sovereignty over the gifting of the body
 - God determined the diversity in the body [**Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:12**]

 - God gives as He pleases [**1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 11**]

- Recognize the interdependence within the body
 - "For the body is not one member, but many" [**1 Corinthians 12:14**]

 - "The members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary, beneficial and to be honored [**1 Corinthians 12:22-23**]

 - We recognize everyone's usefulness and fruit-bearing in the body.

 - We are all peers in the body, no matter what God has given us to do.



How do I know where to serve?

- Look for needs to meet in the body of Christ.
 - There are always a variety of needs in the church.
 - Be intentional in body life.

My heart, my family, my church

- How much should I do?
- How much should I be involved?

The relationship of D2 and D3:



MINISTRY PASSAGES

DISCIPLINE 3 [THE MINISTRY]

Ephesians 4:11 - 16 — The Body Causes the Growth of the Body

- 11 *And He gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelists, some as pastors and teachers,*
12 *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ;*
13 *until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.*
14 *As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of people, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;*
15 *but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, that is, Christ,*
16 *from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

I Peter 4:7-11 — The End is Here. Serve!

- 7 *The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.*
8 *Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.*
9 *Be hospitable to one another without complaint.*
10 *As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the multifaceted grace of God.*
11 *Whoever speaks is to do so as one who is speaking actual words of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*



