

Serving the Lord Together with Excellence, Part 2
God Desires Excellence (1 Peter 4:10-11)

Serving the Lord Together with Excellence, #1: God Trains Me for Service (Eph 4:11-16)

God's Gifts – People (11) – Men appointed, gifted, & assigned by God

God's Goal – Purpose (12) – Equipping, serving, building

God's Guidance – Particulars (13-16)

*Not "What do I or we want out of 'church'?" but "What does God want out of 'church'?"
"that we might ALL attain..."*

1. **Unity – oneness** – doing things as one – not individualistically determined or focused
"unto the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God"
2. **Totality – complete** – to the end, not half-way – God wants to complete Northridge
"to a perfect man,"
3. **Maturity – positive measure** – to grow up fully as Christ
"to the measure of the stature [or maturity] of the fullness of Christ,"
4. **Stability – negative measure** – not bounced or pushed infants
"that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,"

(Process Restated)

"but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ"

5. **Entirety – every part** learning its part and doing its part
"from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share,"
6. **Assembly – building up and increasing** in size
"causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love."

Am I seeking to learn to serve? Am I serving? Am I doing my part?

1. **Excellence Involves Acknowledging My True** _____
2. **Excellence Involves Knowing God Will** _____
3. **Excellence Involves Accepting My Appointed** _____
4. **Excellence Involves Taking My** _____
(Do What God Has Gifted You to Do, and What Your Roles Require)
5. **Excellence Involves Working** _____
6. **Excellence Involves Doing a** _____ **Job**
7. **Excellence Involves Having a Good** _____
8. **Excellence Involves Ongoing** _____
9. **Excellence Involves Going** _____ **Obligations**
10. **Excellence Involves Maximizing Your** _____

Luke 17:7-10 "And which of you, having a servant plowing or tending sheep, will say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and sit down to eat'?⁸ "But will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for my supper, and gird yourself and serve me till I have eaten and drunk, and afterward you will eat and drink'?⁹ "Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not.¹⁰ "So likewise you, **WHEN YOU HAVE DONE ALL THOSE THINGS WHICH YOU ARE COMMANDED, SAY, 'WE ARE UNPROFITABLE SERVANTS. WE HAVE DONE WHAT WAS OUR DUTY TO DO.'**"

ὁ ὠφείλομεν ποιῆσαι πεποιθήκαμεν. (Lk. 17:10 GNT) the [things] we were being obligated to do we have done (→)

Rom 12:4-13⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith;⁷ or ministry, *let us use it* in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching;⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.⁹ *Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.*¹⁰ *Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;*¹¹ **NOT LAGGING IN DILIGENCE, FERVENT** in spirit, serving the Lord;¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;¹³ distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

1 Cor 4:1-2 Let a man so consider us, **AS SERVANTS OF CHRIST** and **STEWARDS OF THE MYSTERIES OF GOD.**² Moreover it is **REQUIRED** in stewards that one be found **FAITHFUL.**

1 Cor 10:31 Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.**

Eph 5:15-16 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,¹⁶ **REDEEMING THE TIME**, because the days are evil.

Eph 6:5-8 Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;⁶ not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, **DOING THE WILL OF GOD FROM THE HEART** (ἐκ ψυχῆς),⁷ with goodwill doing service, **AS TO THE LORD**, and not to men,⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether *he is a slave or free.*

Phil 2:14-16 Do all things **WITHOUT COMPLAINING AND DISPUTING**,¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,¹⁶ **HOLDING FAST THE WORD OF LIFE**, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

Col 3:17 And **whatever you do** in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Col 3:23-24 And whatever you do, **DO IT HEARTILY** (ἐκ ψυχῆς ἐργάζεσθε), **AS TO THE LORD AND NOT TO MEN**,²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

2 Tim 2:15 **BE DILIGENT** to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

1 Pet 4:8-11 And above all things have **FERVENT** love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."⁹ *Be hospitable to one another WITHOUT GRUMBLING.*¹⁰ As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, **AS GOOD STEWARDS OF THE MANIFOLD GRACE OF GOD.**¹¹ If anyone speaks, *let him speak AS THE ORACLES OF GOD.* If anyone ministers, *let him do it AS WITH THE ABILITY WHICH GOD SUPPLIES, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ*, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Eccl 9:10a Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.