

Why do we Serve God in Ministry?

Part 7 of 8 – God’s Glory in the Church

- I. **Filled so that we would overflow:** God saved us and gave us His Holy Spirit so that our life would overflow and influence others (John 7:37-39).
 - A. Our service for God comes from our dependence on God – not on our abilities (John 15:4,5).
 - ✓ *Something to ponder: If the Holy Spirit left us, how much of our “ministry” work would continue unhindered?*
 - B. Our relationship with God is the foundation of our service for God (John 15:4,5).
 - ✓ *Something to ponder: If we are not “abiding” close to God, we have nothing to give to others?*

- II. **Given spiritual gifts to serve others:** We have eternal influence on others as we use our spiritual gift(s) (Ephesians 4:7-13; 1 Peter 4:10).
 - A. Christ decided which spiritual gifts we would have (Ephesians 4:7; 1 Peter 4:10).
 - ✓ *Something to ponder: If we envy the spiritual gifts of others, we will waste the gift we were given.*
 - B. Leaders are gifted to equip others so that all are involved in ministry and so that all mature (Ephesians 4:11-13).
 - ✓ *Something to ponder: My ministry involvement affects my maturity and the maturity level of my church.*

- III. **Serving to glorify Christ and benefit others, not myself:** As we use our spiritual gifts, the body of Christ grows stronger and God receives greater glory (Ephesians 4:14-16; 1 Peter 4:11).
 - A. The church grows stronger and more like Christ as every person serves the way God designed them (Ephesians 4:16; 1 Peter 4:10).
 - B. God is glorified in the church as each person serves the way God designed them (1 Peter 4:11).