



Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Called to Serve & Praise Him

1 Peter 4:10-11

Discussion Starter (this lesson is being presented on "Super Bowl" Sunday evening)

- A. Are you the type of person who likes to put things together with directions or without? How does it usually work out (for you)?
 - B. Have you ever been given instructions or directions that were incorrect? How did you feel or react when you discovered there was a problem?
-

From today's lesson (This lesson has several scripture references. Your Groups should decide which ones it will read and explore this evening. The remainder could be taken home for additional study.)

1. What is Jesus' response to Satan's offer of "all the kingdoms of the world" if he will worship him (Matthew 4:10; Luke 4:8)? What does "worship" mean in this context? What does it mean to worship and serve God?
2. Answer the questions after reading 2 Timothy 3:16-17, John 12:26, and John 14:15.
 - a. Is this passage more associated with serving or praising God?
 - b. How does Scripture help one to serve or praise God?
3. Read Mark 10:45 and answer the following questions.
 - a. Why did Jesus come?
 - b. Who is to receive the praise for this?
 - c. How are Christians to respond to this?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 and answer the following questions.
 - a. What does it mean to "come together as a church"?
 - b. What was the problem in the Corinthian assemblies? How did he describe the meetings?
 - c. Did the Christians in Corinth think they are eating the Lord's Supper? What did Paul say?
 - d. What was wrong with the way they were eating? How was it impacting the church?
 - e. What example did Paul use to help correct the problem in Corinth?
 - f. Looking at this context, how may some of them been eating the Lord's Supper unworthily?
 - g. Did Paul appear to think what they did when they came together made a difference?
 - h. What passages would seem to indicate this concern?

5. Read Acts 2:42-47 and answer the following questions.
 - a. To what were the believers in Jerusalem “devoted”? (List the four activities)
 - b. What might these activities look like today? Do we ever do these when we meet together?
 - c. Are we limited to doing these only when we are meeting together?
 - d. On what days did they meet? Where did they meet?
 - e. How are the hearts of the Jerusalem believers described? Why do you think this was true?

Group Application

1. When we meet what do you do to encourage others (Hebrews 10:25-26)? How are you encouraged?
2. Do you think it is possible for a church to have problems similar to that suffered by the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 11:17-34)? How could our meetings go from “building others up and praising God” to “tearing them down and bringing about God’s condemnation”?
3. How would you express devotion to the activities listed in Acts 2:42? How do they relate to serving or praising God?
4. How are you doing in these areas? How could the group help or encourage you in the coming week?
5. The Lord was “adding” people to the church... how do you think they were hearing about Jesus? What can you do this week to help see people added by the Lord to his church?