

Week #3:Your Involvement Matters

Together you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of that body. 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NCV)

I play my part in the body of Christ when I understand:

• My _____ matters.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

• My _____ matters.

S_____.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (NLT) For it is [not your strength, but it is] God who is effectively at work in you, both to will and to work [that is, strengthening, energizing, and creating in you the longing and the ability to fulfill your purpose] for His good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13 (AMP)

Α

We don't have the right to claim that we have done anything on our own. God gives us what it takes to do all we do.

2 Corinthians 3:5 (CEV)

P_____

Carefully guard your thoughts because they are the source of true life. Proverbs 4:23 (CEV)

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We are confident that God is able to orchestrate everything to work toward something good and beautiful when we love Him and accept His invitation to live according to His plan. Romans 8:28 (VOICE)

• My _____ matters.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

"Then these righteous ones will reply, 'Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"" Matthew 25:34-40 (NLT)

But Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Matthew 20:25-28 (NLT)

Discussion Questions

1. You have been shaped by God on purpose and for a purpose. Share several qualities that are unique, maybe even quirky, about you. How might these qualities be of service to the work God is doing in our church, your family, your workplace, and social circles?

2. Do you see yourself as a unique and necessary part of the work of God at EastLake Church? Why or why not? What obstacles are keeping you from serving the church?

3. In what ways can you serve the church this week?

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Recommended Resources

- The Purpose Driven Life, by Rick Warren
- The Beginner's Guide to Spiritual Gifts, by Sam Storms
- Volunteering: A Guide to Serving in the Body of Christ, by Leith Anderson and Jill Fox
- Hero Maker, by Dave Ferguson and Warren Bird

(NCV) New Century Version (NIV) New International Version (CEV) Contemporary English Version (VOICE) The Voice (NLT) New Living Translation (AMP) Amplified Bible

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I play my part in the body of Christ when I understand:

• My <u>PRESENCE</u> matters.

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

• My <u>S.H.A.P.E</u> matters.

Spiritual Gifts.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (NLT)

Heart.

For it is [not your strength, but it is] God who is effectively at work in you, both to will and to work [that is, strengthening, energizing, and creating in you the longing and the ability to fulfill your purpose] for His good pleasure.

Philippians 2:13 (AMP)

Abilities.

We don't have the right to claim that we have done anything on our own. God gives us what it takes to do all we do.

2 Corinthians 3:5 (CEV)

Personality.

Carefully guard your thoughts because they are the source of true life. Proverbs 4:23 (CEV)

Experiences.

We are confident that God is able to orchestrate everything to work toward something good and beautiful when we love Him and accept His invitation to live according to His plan. Romans 8:28 (VOICE)

• My <u>SERVICE</u> matters.

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me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.'

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