

The Journey We Travel: Serve the Church  
This week's reading: Romans 12:3-8; John 13:1-17

**CHECK UP:**

Memory Work: No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. - Matthew 16:24

In what way did you consider and/or act on giving generously this past week?

**OPEN:**

- Who did you B.L.E.S.S. this past week? What action steps did you take?

**READ and ASK: John 13:1-17; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31; Romans 12:3-8**

- What do these passages teach us about serving the church?
- What is the purpose of God giving people spiritual gifts?
  - o Why is it important to understand the difference between serving the church and volunteering in the community?
  - o How do they have different purposes?
- Why is serving the church an **essential** step in the journey we travel (to be and make better followers of Jesus)?
- Which passage stands out or challenges you most? Why?
- How is serving the church both a posture (John 13) and a practice (Rom 12, 1 Cor 12)?
  - o How is serving the church both "corporate" and daily?
  - o How do you think serving the church gets minimized in the western church?

**APPLY:**

- How can this group help you to serve the church better?
  - o How can you serve the church **in** and **through** this group?
- Next step: What do you need to commit to in order to serve the church as God intends?

Memory Work:

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. - Romans 12:4-5

Next Week's Reading:

Matthew 9:37-38; Acts 1:8; Colossians 4:2-6; Romans 10:10-17;  
1 Corinthians 9:19-23; 2 Corinthians 5:20