



SERVICE

October 4, 2020

The SERVICE Mark:

Sacrificially give your time, treasure, and talents to
build up the church and help others

Servants make the best use of their _____.

What will you do with your time?

1 Peter 4:7-11 (ESV)

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The "eschaton" means _____.

The "Parousia" is know as _____.

Followers of Christ need to be aware of _____.

How can we serve others like Jesus is returning tomorrow?

1. Pray _____

Think: How would you pray if you knew when Jesus would return?

Pray: Ask God what His will is for your life.

2. Love _____

Think: How can you challenge your capacity to love others?

Pray: Who is someone I should serve?

3. Steward _____

Think: Am I ready to be held accountable for how I have used my gifts?

Pray: How can I use my gifts to serve others?

Reflection Questions

Why do we sometimes lose sight of Christ's second coming? What are some of the consequences of doing this?

If you knew Christ was returning next week, how would this change how you pray? How about how you love and serve others?

What do you think your spiritual gifts are? How are you using your gifts to serve others in specific ways?

Practices

Perform a “random act of kindness” this week.

First a way to do an act of kindness for someone, with no strings attached. Try to do it ‘out of the blue’ with little planning. Just seek to bless someone but try to do it in a COVID-safe kind of a way. Do it the first day of the week and see what happens. You might just keep doing it every day this week.

Take the spiritual gifts inventory.

If you don't know what your spiritual gifts are, we have a tool that can get you started on the path of discovery. Keep in mind that this tool is only the starting point. Because it is a self-assessment, you will also need honest and helpful members of the body of Christ to affirm those gifts in you. Once you take the assessment, share it with some good friends and ask them for their honest opinions – make sure they are the kind of people who aren't afraid to speak the truth in love to you!

Visit thecrosspointchurch.ca/tools and scroll down to the bottom of the page.

Affirm someone else's spiritual gifts.

Tell someone in the body of Christ that you recognize God's handiwork in them. We call this the “ICNU” conversation (I SEE IN YOU). It might go something like this: “Marvin, I just wanted to let you know that I see God working in you. You have a real gift of service. I see it in the way you helped Marco move his sofa and Joaquin set up his computer.” The key is to be specific about the gift, and the way they use it.

Set your heart on Christ's return.

The second-last verse in the Bible is a prayer. It's found in Revelation 22:20: “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” What if you prayed that prayer morning, noon, and night this week. “Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!” Set your alarm so you don't forget. Put a sticky note on your mirror or the dashboard of your car. As you go throughout the week, reflect on the implications of this prayer for your life.