



Church: The Way It Was Meant To Be A Service Based Church

Big Idea: The Church was meant to be a service based church where everyone exercises their God-given HEART for ministry.

Opening Question: How did you celebrate Valentine's Day?

Discussion Questions

Text: Acts 6:1-7

Read through the passage

1. What are the problems in the early church in this passage?
2. Why do you think these problems exist?
3. What were the dangers of ignoring this problem?
4. How did the apostles attempt to solve this problem?
 - a. What did they do?
 - b. What did they not do?
5. How did they choose the appropriate people?
6. How did they commission them for service?
7. What were the results of their efforts?
8. Where do you serve in the church today? Where do you serve outside the church?
9. It is the biblical expectation that every Christ-follower uses their gifts, abilities, talents and desires to serve God to extend His Kingdom. At Grace Chapel this has been a core value for a number of years and we have attempted to engage people in service in a variety of ways over these years. Currently we are using the HEART acronym to describe where people should find a place to serve:
 - H = Heart: your personal passion for ministry.
 - E = Experience: how they have shaped your life and faith.
 - A = Anointing: your spiritual gifts.
 - R = Relationship: your relational style ("wiring").
 - T = Talent: natural skills, expertise, hobbies.
 - a. In your groups take the time to talk through each person's HEART profile. Break up into smaller groups if the group is too large. Share only what you know about yourself rather than guessing. Have others give their own insights into your HEART profile based on their knowledge of you. Especially share about How God has used you in service to others, keeping the glory and focus on Him in your sharing.
 - b. Consider taking the HEART for Service class next week either individually or as a group to learn what your HEART profile is.



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- c. If you answered question 8 with a "I don't serve in the church", take the time to seriously consider a place where you might begin to serve as you discover your HEART profile. Commit to each other in your group that you will make "Serving" a lifestyle rather than a one-time effort. As a great place to start there might be an area of the church where you see a problem. Perhaps this discontent is God's way of showing you where to start serving.

Prayer Time

Begin your prayer time by praying about what you have shared with each other. Pray about the way God has moved through peoples' efforts to serve. Pray about opportunities to serve and how you might meet those needs. Pray for the many needs that exist beyond our capacity to meet them. Pray for the Children's Ministry, Support Ministries (IT, Parking, Data Entry, Web, etc.), Youth Ministries, LIFE Communities, and other ministries that come to mind. Finally, pray for the power and glory of God to be seen in His Church, so that all might see and know that we serve a God who is powerful, able, loving and caring for His people.