

SPIRITUAL EXERCISES WORKOUT SHEET 7

THE EXERCISE OF SERVICE

Set aside some time this week to consider the following:

1. TIME

Look at the list below.

God, spouse, family, work/community involvement, worshipping community, friends, rest/ recreation, myself

a) How much time am I giving to each one? Are some taking up too much time, others getting no time at all?

b) How much time do I think my heavenly Father would like me to give each one?

2. TALENTS

Listed below are some of the spiritual gifts found in the church in the New Testament:

SPEAKING

Teaching
Encouragement
Wisdom
Knowledge

SIGNS

Tongues
Interpretation
Healing
Miracles
Faith

SERVICE

Mercy
Helps
Administration
Leadership

SUPPORT

Apostles
Prophets
Evangelists
Pastors
Teachers

If you do not yet know what gifts God has given you, pray that he will show you as you grow in your Christian walk. Prayerfully ask your leaders and small group members to tell you what gifts they discern in you.

Resolve to trust God and start using what God has given you, as his Spirit leads you. Like any other gift, spiritual gifts need to start with small steps and grow stronger with practice. And remember: a mistake is not a failure unless you fail to learn from it.

3. TREASURE

“We teach the value of tithing... giving the first ten per cent of our income before tax to the local church. We don't teach this as a law to be obeyed but as a great value to be embraced. (See Malachi 3:10). Some people are on a journey towards tithing, while others are called and are able to give more than the tithe. The important thing is to embrace the value of tithing.

In addition to tithes the Bible talks about 'offerings'. These special offerings are collections for the poor and the needy, especially in times of crisis and emergency (see Acts 11.27-30).”

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2Cor:9 v 7

If you have not already done so, decide in your heart what you are going to give to your church.



Father, you did not spare your own Son, but gave him up for us all. Create in me the heart of a servant. Help me to give of myself and my possessions willingly and joyfully. Amen.