



STUDY TOOLS

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Teaching: Serve with Time, Talents, & Treasures

Key Scripture: 1 Peter 4:10-11

5-DAY READING PLAN WITH QUESTIONS:

Monday: 1 Peter 4:1-11

Tuesday: Mark 10:35-45

Wednesday: John 13:1-17

Thursday: Romans 12

Friday: 1 Chronicles 29:10-20

1. What does this passage tell you about God?
2. What does this passage tell you about people?
3. If this is God's Word (The Bible), what do I need to do?
4. What is your takeaway?
5. Who would you tell?

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION:

In 1 Peter 4:10–11, Peter reminds us that we are not owners of what God has given us, we are managers, or stewards. God has entrusted each of us with time, talents, and treasures, and He wants us to use what He has given us for His glory and to serve others. This changes the question from “What do I want to do with what I have?” to “God, what do You want me to do with what You’ve given me?” Our time is limited, our abilities are uniquely given by God, and our resources ultimately belong to Him. Throughout Scripture, we see that God’s people respond to His provision through generosity, and Jesus makes clear that giving must be accompanied by justice, mercy, and faithfulness. Ultimately, serving isn’t simply about filling a volunteer position, it’s about offering our whole lives to God. When we use our time, talents, and treasures to bless others, God receives the glory. If God gave it to me, He wants to use it through me.

Questions: If you had a Saturday all to yourself, how would you spend your time?

1. Read 1 Peter 4:10-11 together as a group What words or phrases stand out to you in these two verses? What do these verses tell us about where our gifts come from and what we are supposed to do with them?
2. What does it mean to think of ourselves as stewards rather than owners? How might that change the way we think about the things God has placed in our hands? (See Digging Deeper below for help)
3. 1 Peter 4:10 states that everyone has received a gift to serve others. If someone in the group is struggling to figure out what their spiritual gift is, how can your group help them discover it?

CEDAR VALLEY

Memorizing Scripture provides spiritual strength, guides your daily life, and equips you for ministry in everyday moments. For

the rest of the year, we’re switching things up! Each week, we encourage **you** to choose one verse from the weekly Key Scripture that stands out to you and commit it to memory. Before you choose your verse, ask God to reveal the one you most need to hide in your heart. Over time, you’ll be amazed at how God brings that verse to mind—whether to strengthen and encourage you or to help you encourage someone else.

4. Read Romans 12:4–8. What different gifts do you see in this passage? What does this passage teach us about why God gives people different gifts rather than giving everyone the same gifts?
5. Read Ephesians 4:11–16. According to verses 11–12, what is the role of pastors and other ministry leaders? Who is supposed to do the work of ministry? What happens when each part of the body does its work?
6. According to the end of 1 Peter 4:11, what is the ultimate goal of all our loving, hospitality, speaking, and serving? How does keeping this goal in mind change your motivation this week?
7. Looking at your own life, which of these three areas – time, talents, or treasures – easiest for you to see as belonging to God? Which is hardest? What is one specific way you could begin stewarding that area differently this week?

NOTES

Question 2:

The Greek word for “steward” in 1 Peter 4:10 is *oikonomos* (οἰκονόμος), meaning “steward of a household, or manager.” A steward possesses something that belongs to someone else and is responsible for using it according to the owner's purposes.

DIGGING DEEPER

See this short video for to understand the Hebrew word for “serve” in the Old Testament:

<https://bibleproject.com/videos/vocab-insight-avad-serve-work/>

See this short video for the theme of generosity in the bible (related to service):

<https://bibleproject.com/videos/generosity/>