

## THE STRATEGY: SERVE (PART 2) 1 Peter 4:7-11

A spiritual gift is a supernaturally designed ability granted to every believer by which the Holy Spirit ministers to the body of Christ. A spiritual gift cannot be earned, pursued or worked up. It is merely “received” through the grace of God.

- John MacArthur

### I. Understanding the Gifts

## II. Using the Gifts

### Getting to Know You

1. What is your favorite fast food chain?

### Into the Bible

2. In the message, Matt mentioned briefly that each time the New Testament writers talk about spiritual gifts they put them into the context of love for each other. 1 Corinthians 13 is probably the clearest example of this. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7. What are the characteristics of love that allow gifts to be used to build up the body of Christ, not tear it apart?

3. Sometimes we undervalue spiritual gifts because they sound so ordinary—teaching, giving, helping, etc. Read Ephesians 1:15-23. What is the power that works through us when we serve using our spiritual gifts? How should that make us feel about their importance and value?

## Application

4. Think about the spiritual gifts that you have been given. Be as objective as you can. Ask the opinion of others in your group who know you well. Do you have gifts that you aren't currently using to serve? What can you do to begin using those gifts?

5. Tell your group one thing that you will commit to do this week to increase your service here at Chapel City Church.

## For Families

6. During our fall small groups, we have encouraged you to help your children determine their spiritual gifts and discuss how others are using their gifts at Chapel City Church. This week, plan something that you can do as a family, either in the home or in the church, that will let your children use those gifts that you have identified. If you aren't sure how to start, ask for suggestions from others in your group.