

SERMON MESSAGE FOR MARCH 23/24, 2019

Pastor Josh Rose

PILGRIM

Service: *God's Strategy for Spiritual Growth*

Ephesians 4:11-16 (p. 999)

MAIN IDEA → God's strategy for spiritual growth is to _____ His people
to _____. (vs. 1-7, 11-12; John 14:12)

- You've been given the _____ of _____.
- Other people have been given the _____.

CHALLENGE → Be the _____.

1. You are _____ to serve _____.
(vs. 1, 12; Rom. 6:23; 1 Pet. 4:10)

www.efcc.org/serve-at-efcc

2. There are people who _____ what you can _____.
(v. 13; 1 Cor 15:10)



3. You have _____ in serving. (vs. 14-15; Acts 20:35; Heb 6:10)

4. This is how God wants us to _____ to the _____. (v. 1)



For online sermon resources (audios, videos and study notes), scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet, or visit our web site at www.efcc.org/sermons.

EFCC Open Wi-Fi Password: **John3:16**

FROM MARCH 23/24, 2019 SERMON
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR SERMON-BASED LIFE GROUPS

Personal preparation: Read the passage, review your outline, and think through the questions. With your group, watch the video blog together.

CONNECTING

1. Pick one to answer ...
 - a. What's one of the nicest things someone has done for you recently? Why was it so nice?
 - b. Which is easier for you to do — to say *I love you* or to show *I love you*? Why? (1 John 3:18)

GROWING

2. Why do you think God chose service as one of His strategies to grow His people? (vs. 1-7, 11-12, John 14:12)
3. When Paul talks about serving, what kind of serving does he have in mind (vs. 11-12)? Where does he think it will happen? What are its goals? How does your life reflect all of this?
4. What was the most encouraging thing that the Lord impressed on your heart from the message? Why?

SHARING

5. What's one way you can apply this text in a non-legalistic kind of way?

Pilgrim Week 12 Memory Verse

"For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters.
But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature.
Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.
Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

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(For Scripture references and fill-in the blanks)

MAIN IDEA: God's strategy for spiritual growth is to **mobilize** His people to **serve one another**. (vs. 1-7, 11-12; John 14:12)

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father." John 14:12

- You've been given the **gift** of **other people**.
- Other people have been given the **gift of you**.

*"Christians are part of each other and are to receive one another, think about one another, serve one another, love one another, build up one another, bear each other's burdens, submit to each other, and encourage each other. **Christianity is a God-directed, Christ-defined, other-oriented religion.**"*
Klyne Snodgrass

CHALLENGE: Be the **gift**.

1. You are **ready** to serve **right now**. (vs. 1, 12; Rom. 6:23; 1 Pet. 4:10)

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

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2. There are people who **need** what you can **give**. (v. 13; 1 Cor. 15:10)

Grace-Driven Effort

"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me." 1 Corinthians 15:10

"Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning." Dallas Willard

3. You have **a lot to gain** in serving. (vs. 14-15; Acts 20:35; Heb. 6:10)

"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35

"For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do." Hebrews 6:10 (ESV)

4. This is how God wants us to **respond** to the **gift of Jesus**. (v. 1)