

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 838

June 4, 2025

“A SHOUT-OUT TO THE SERVERS”

The Bible identifies several "service gifts" in **Romans 12:6–8**, which are practical expressions of God's grace in the life of a believer to build up the body of Christ. These gifts—**serving, exhorting, giving, administering (leading), and showing mercy**—are empowered by the Holy Spirit and intended for ministry to others.

Romans 12:6–8 (ESV):

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

1. Serving (Greek: *diakonia*)

Definition: The Spirit-empowered ability to identify and meet practical needs, often working behind the scenes to support others and carry out God's work.

1 Peter 4:10–11 (NIV):

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms... If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides..."

Example: Martha served Jesus by providing hospitality (Luke 10:40); Phoebe is called a servant of the church (Romans 16:1).

2. Exhorting (Greek: *paraklēsis*)

Definition: The God-given ability to encourage, strengthen, and comfort others in their walk with Christ, often through counsel, challenge, or reassurance.

Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV):

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together... but encouraging one another..."

Example: Barnabas, known as the "son of encouragement," supported and mentored early believers (Acts 4:36; Acts 9:27).

3. Giving (Greek: *metadidōmi*)

Definition: The Spirit-enabled generosity to joyfully and sacrificially share resources to meet needs and advance God's kingdom.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV):

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Example: The early church members sold possessions to give to anyone in need (Acts 2:44–45); the Macedonians gave generously despite poverty (2 Corinthians 8:1–3).

4. Administering / Leading (Greek: *proistēmi*)

Definition: The Spirit-empowered ability to organize, guide, and mobilize people toward a common goal or mission with diligence and care.

1 Timothy 3:4–5 (ESV):

"[An overseer] must manage his own household well... for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?"

Romans 12:8 (ESV):

"...the one who leads, with zeal."

Example: Nehemiah led the rebuilding of Jerusalem's walls with strategy and motivation (Nehemiah 2–6); church elders manage and oversee local congregations (Titus 1:5).

5. Showing Mercy (Greek: *eleeō*)

Definition: The Spirit-inspired ability to compassionately care for those who are suffering, broken, or in distress, showing God's love in action.

Matthew 5:7 (ESV):

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy."

Romans 12:8 (ESV):

"...the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

Example: The Good Samaritan, moved by compassion, cared for a wounded man (Luke 10:33–35); Jesus wept and showed deep mercy toward the hurting (John 11:35).

Each of these service gifts reflects a unique aspect of Jesus' own ministry and is vital for the health and growth of the Church. They may operate in quiet, everyday ways—but their eternal impact is profound.

(Please see chart below)

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 4
Study and Prayer
Bible Study @ 7pm
Prayer @ 7:45

Thursday, June 5
Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00

Sunday, June 8
Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:00 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, June 11
Study and Prayer
Bible Study @ 7pm
Prayer @ 7:45

Thursday, June 12
Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00

Helping Hands for

June 8, 2024

ProPresenter

Bill Joyner

Soundboard

Jane Davis

Live Streaming

Ramsey Mallory

Communion

Lynn Joyner

**Scripture Text and Sermon
This Coming Sunday**

**“CHURCH: God’s Way”
A Survey of
ACTS 2**

Prophecies O.T.

Revealed....

N.T.

June 1 John 19:34

June 2 Ps 22:14-15

June 3 Mk 15:34-37

June 4 Ps 22:16

June 5 Jn 19:34-37

June 6 Ps 22:17-18

GROW

Women of HOPE

Meetings generally at HOPE

on the second and fourth

Saturdays

every month

“Food of the Month”

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

KID’S TREATS: Sweet & Fruity

We have a collection bin in the
foyer

SERVE

TLC Devotion

June 25, 2025

@ 11:00 a.m.

5124 Departure Dr # 101,
Raleigh

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone
else.

Prayer Requests:

Norma (MRI results) Jerry and Alice, Gene & Becky Hale, Ron Clifton, Pastor Search Committee, HOPE Vision Team, Patty Moyer and her son Brandon, Chad’s family, Josh McDonald, Erin’s parents and brother, Tom Riggelman (Bruce), Janice Worthington, Donna Williams, Jerry & Alice K., Burton(Erin), The Branch’s, Phil Parton, Krishana, Dave Rendall, Sam and Rachael, Joan Rollinson, Dianne Reinoso, Cindy (Elizabeth), Nancy Hutchins, Barbara(81) Stroke, Joey(18) Crohn’s, Ebo (Glioblastoma #3/4)-family has 4 children, Youth Ministry, Kathy Jo and her family, Peggy Karpenske, Claudia in Idaho (Kathy H), Dave & Dot Geil, Corbin Broome, The Mallory family, Carol & Colin (Kathy H), Loretta (Sandi U), Joan Summers, Jordan Stevens (Lynn J.), our Military, Police, Fire, and EMS. Missionaries, our Nation.

PLEASE NOTE:

**JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY
AND PRAYER BEGINNING
AT 7 PM WEDNESDAY AND
CONTINUING THROUGH
THE SUMMER.**

UPCOMING

WOMEN OF HOPE

Saturdays at 10 a.m. at HOPE

6/14

**“Loyalty is the mark of a good
friend. What kind of friend are
you?”**

**HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church
4911 Green Rd
Raleigh, NC 27616
919-508-6827
Worship Time: 9:30 AM**

**www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org
www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh
Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh
YouTube.com (type “HOPE Church Raleigh”
in the search box)**

**“Efficiency achieved at the expense
of creativity is counterproductive.”**

Harvey Mackay from the book,

Swim with the sharks

without being eaten alive

| I Gift | I Greek Word | I Description | I Key Verse(s) |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| ----- — | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| **Serving** | <i>*diakonia*</i> | Meeting practical needs with humility | Romans 12:7, 1 Peter 4:10–11 |
| **Exhorting** | <i>*paraklēsis*</i> | Encouraging and strengthening others spiritually | Romans 12:8, Hebrews 10:24–25 |
| **Giving** | <i>*metadidōmi*</i> | Generously and joyfully sharing resources | Romans 12:8, 2 Corinthians 9:7 |
| **Leading** | <i>*proistēmi*</i> | Organizing and guiding others toward God’s purposes | Romans 12:8, 1 Timothy 3:4–5 |
| **Showing Mercy** | <i>*eleeō*</i> | Demonstrating compassion to the suffering with joy | Romans 12:8, Matthew 5:7 |