15 November 2026

Rhythms of Grace. Service, The Outward Expression

As followers of Jesus, we serve. Why? Because He set the example for us to follow. He said, “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45); perhaps no more clearly demonstrated than the washing of his disciples’ feet (John 13:5).

Reflect

When we turn to Christ, He places every believer into ‘the body of Christ’ with intentional design. Because He does, He also equips each member with spiritual gifts so the whole body can flourish. Every believer has been gifted, young or old, irrespective of how or when they committed to Christ.

Read 1 Peter 4:8-11

Peter highlights how this gifting works. Everyone receives a gift or gifting from God which is to be used to serve others, and God provides the strength/ability needed to deliver this service really well. In serving we are witnessing our faith, reflecting the love of Jesus, and bringing glory to God through Him.

Read Mark 10:35-45

This passage highlights the need of humility in the outworking of one’s gift. God’s individual gift to everyone is by God’s grace and not by merit. We must humbly strive to deliver our gifting and give the glory to Jesus should we receive praise for our endeavours. As part of the body of Christ, no role is more important than another, every task is essential to the full and complete functioning of the body. We are to avoid envy or pride by embracing our unique role or roles (1 Corinthians 12:21-27)

Respond

How do we find the appropriate way to serve and exercise our gifting? Or perhaps, how to move from one act of service, which has become a chore, to another, perhaps where your true gifting lies. Service can be tiring, but gifted activity leaves inner satisfaction.

Spend some time reading and praying through the scripture passages about gifts (1 Corinthians 12, Romans 12, Ephesians 4) and see what particularly resonates, where you feel a pull to serve. “It is God who works in you to will and to act” (Philippians 2:13).

Gifts surface best when in motion, not in theory, so we step out and try a few things, remembering God will be with you.

It is not primarily about filling gaps in the church rotas (important as this might be) but giving your time and energies to a role that, even in small ways (at first) that serves others and/or the body of Christ, that ‘does what Jesus would have done’, and grows God’s Kingdom.

Try working with another person who also is seeking their gifting. Partner with someone who you think has a different but complimentary gifting.

Gifting without love profits nothing (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). We depend on the Holy Spirit daily.

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, who being rich chose to be made poor for our sake, teach us and guide us to serve where most needed and where we can exercise the gifting you embedded within us. There we know we can find joy and reflect the love you lavish on us. Glory to you our Lord and Saviour. Amen