

Koinonia

Week Five: Sacrifice and Serve



God uses His people to take care of His people. It's a powerful statement when you think about it. God calls us to care for one another as the body of Christ. When we take care of each other, we are stronger to go and make a difference. In this study, we will look at the importance of serving and being there for each other. When we come together as a church and care for one another, we can truly be better together and show others the love that God has for us.

Introspect

- Most of us lean towards either giving generously or being stingy. Which one do you lean towards and why?
- Have you ever seen an environment where needs were being met, and caring for each other was happening? Share your experience and observations.
- When it comes to serving and taking care of needs, our top priority is to help those within the church. Why might that thought make you feel uncomfortable? Which one is easier for you to do and why—to help the person on the street corner or take care of the people you're connected to?

Investigate

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”
- 1 John 3:18 (ESV)

Read 1 John 3:16-18

- How do these verses solidify the idea that we are to first care for the body of Christ?
- Why is caring a good measure of how we love each other?



Read Romans 12:3-5 and 9-13

- What is Paul saying about the body of Christ? How can the imagery of the body help us understand why it's important to take care of the body first?
- What's the connection between 1 John 3:16 and Romans 12:3?

“Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”
- Romans 12:13 (ESV)

Incorporate

- If you're a Christ follower, you're part of the body that was discussed in Romans. What area has God called you to serve within the church, and how has it impacted your life?
- There is a big difference between needs and wants. How do you determine what the real need is and when to give?
- Maybe you think you don't have time or the resources to meet a need. What would it take for you to stop, see a need, and then meet that need? What is something you are currently doing that you might need to cut from your life in order to have margin of time and/or resources?
- Think about your group. How open has your Life Group been in knowing what each other's needs are? Why does sharing the load with one another strengthen our relationships?
- We have discussed authenticity in this series and how important it is for us to be honest with one another. Is there a need you have that you would be willing to share with the group? How will your group come up with a plan to help meet that need?"

Investment

Have you considered that volunteering on a ministry team within the church is one way we serve the body? What is your next step in serving within the church? www.covechurch.org/volunteering

Have you considered that your tithes and offerings go towards meeting needs within the church that you may not even know are there? What is your next step in giving?
www.covechurch.org/onlinegiving