

Alderwood Community Church
October 28, 2018

Living a Life of Service: Loving Your Church
Close: The Importance of Following Jesus Closely
Ephesians 4:7-16

(Page 948, 1158 or 1175)

“From him [Christ] the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

Ephesians 4:16

Big Idea: Love your church by doing your part!

- 1. Jesus has given _____ of us a _____ to be used to serve others in the church. (4:7; also 1 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Peter 4:10)**

- 2. The motive for serving one another is _____ for each other. (4:16; also 1 John 3:16-18)**

- 3. The goal of serving one another is our _____ and _____ as a church. (4:12-15)**

- 4. Everyone has to _____ in order for our church to be healthy and grow. (4:12,16)**

How do you determine what your part is? By discovering your **SHAPE!**

Spiritual Gift What am I gifted to do?

(Examples: Preaching, Evangelism, Teaching, Encouragement, Service, Mercy, Hospitality, Shepherding, Giving, Leadership, Administration)

Heart What do I love to do?
 What motivates me most?
 What age or type of person do I love to work with most?
 What church issues, ministries or needs excite or concern me the most?
 If I knew I couldn't fail, what would I attempt to do for God with my life?

Abilities What natural talents and skills do I have?
 How could these be used to serve my church?

Personality Where does my personality best suit me to serve?

Experiences What experiences have I had?
 Spiritual experiences
 Painful experiences
 Educational experiences
 Work experiences
 Ministry experiences

How can God use this experience(s) to serve others in my church?

A call to action:

1. Begin today, find a need in our church and meet it.
2. Answer the SHAPE questions.
3. Go to our church App and click on the Serve button.
4. Go to the table in the lobby and see what our most current needs are in our church.

Sermon Questions:

1. Look back over your notes from the sermon. Was there anything that caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?
2. Pastor Brad challenged us to love our church by doing our part by serving in some way. Based on your personal experience, what makes you want to serve? What makes you not want to serve?

Do you have an example of how you've served at ACC? What was that experience like for you?

3. Read **Ephesians 4:1-16** three times. Summarize in your own words what is being said in this passage.
4. Paul lists seven qualities essential for promoting unity among believers. Number each of these qualities (1-7) according to which you think is most important for promoting unity at this time in the life of ACC.
 - ___ Humility
 - ___ Gentleness
 - ___ Patience
 - ___ Bearing with each other
 - ___ Diligence in preserving unity
 - ___ Peacemaking

Which will you work on in your life and how will you do it?

5. Pastor Brad made the point that Jesus has given each member of the church a gift to be used to serve others in the church. What gift or ability has God given you? If you know, how are you currently using it to serve others? If you don't know, what will you do to discover and use it?

6. Is there a need at ACC that you see, and would like to help meet? What is that need and why are you drawn to it? What do you think might be the first step to meeting that need?

For next week:

1. Prayerfully read **Deuteronomy 14:28 – 15:11**; **Proverbs 14:31** and **19:17** several times.
2. Summarize in your own words what each passage is saying.

3. What do you learn from these sections about God? What do you learn about people?