“Our Christian Testimony As A Church Body”

Annual Celebration Sunday January 4, 2023 1 Peter 4:7-11

INTRODUCTION READ 1 Peter 4:1-19 cf. 1:18-22; 2:24; 3:18

Serving Others With Gifts from God

 As Good Stewards

 According to the Grace of God

 So That God would be glorified through Jesus Christ

1. Serving Others With Gifts from God As Good Stewards 4:10
2. What God Has Given Us To Be for Serving Others

 Having With Our Gifts----Ability

“As each one has received a gracious gift . . .”

As A Christian you have a special gift equipped & supplied

Christian Testimony--what God has given you in gifted abilities

 READ Romans 12:3-6 READ Ephesians 4:12-16

1. What God Has Given Us To Do Is Serving Others

 Serving With Our Gifts----Responsibility

“for each other serving as good stewards the manifold grace of God”

As A Christian you have a real stewardship enabled & strengthened

Christian Testimony--what God has called you in ministry responsibilities

“as good stewards” what you have done with what the owner gave you

READ First Corinthians 12:7, 11 individual gifts for mutual benefit

“The Spirit manifest Himself in us by His gifts for the common good”

many-colored; as indicating diversity of many kinds, diverse, various

“God given ability for service”

“By accepting our God-given role as stewards rather than owners, we recognize that everything we claim to possess is not ours but God's, entrusted to us for a period of time to use as He directs.” ~Walter B. Russell

1. Serving Others According to the Grace of God

 So That God Would Be Glorified Through Jesus Christ 4:11

1. How We Do This Serving Others With The Gifts Given 4:11a

 “whoever speaks, as the oracles of God” WORDS

 “whoever serves, as by the strength which God supplies” DEEDS

 to make available whatever is necessary to help or supply the needs

 READ Romans 12:1-7

1. Why We Do This Serving Others With The Gifts Given 4:11a

 “so that in all things God may be glorified

 through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs

 the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Whatever we do in ministry for people is always because of what God has done for us. We are enabled through what God is doing through us. God then is in the proper place of our lives & this church when we will serve others as good stewards according to the grace of God. And therefore, such gifted and graced ministries produce God-centered doxology in our Christian testimony as a church body.

God gives gifts . . . God grants grace . . . God gets the glory . . .

CONCLUSION Our Christian Testimony As A Church Body

* See the relationship between the gifts of God, the grace of God, and the glory of God in serving one another as a church body
* Pursuing Spiritual growth which results in Christian maturity so that we might use our gifts in more mature ways for benefiting others
* Know & Learn the Spiritual Gifts so that we would all be serving in the ways which God has equipped for this church body Community Groups
* There are many ways to see this Christian testimony here at New Life Fellowship as a church body with ministries in serving others
* Strengthening the Christian testimony of this church body being good stewards of the grace of God
* Ask for help from God to see how He has gifted you for serving others so that He would be glorified here at New Life Fellowship