

Bible Study: Gifts of the Spirit for the Work of the Kingdom - Helps

1 Corinthians 12:27–31

Warm-Up Question

Share a time when a behind-the-scenes act of service significantly blessed you or the church. Why did it matter?

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:27–31

1. One Body, Many Members (v.27)

Paul teaches that believers are members of Christ's body—interdependent, not independent (Rom 12:4–5; Eph 4:4–16). Just as a potato peeler seems insignificant beside flashier kitchen tools, yet is crucial for preparing a meal, so seemingly small ministries are indispensable. The church challenges individualism by forming us into a shared life in Christ (Heb 10:24–25).

Discussion: How does this challenge “Jesus-and-me” Christianity?

2. God Appoints Every Gift (v.28)

Paul places Helps alongside apostles, prophets, and teachers, demonstrating its spiritual dignity. Romans 12:6–8 and 1 Peter 4:10–11 affirm that serving (diakonia) is a grace-gift entrusted to believers. Jesus redefines greatness as humble service (Mark 10:45; John 13:1–17).

Discussion: Why does God honour seemingly ordinary service?

3. Spirit-Empowered, Not Just Volunteering (vv.4–7)

The Greek term *antílēpsis* (“helping”) implies active, Spirit-enabled support. Acts 6:1–7 shows disciples chosen to serve so the apostles could focus on prayer and the Word. Like peeling potatoes for a feast, Helps removes burdens so ministry flourishes. Every gift is a manifestation of the Spirit (1 Cor 12:7).

Discussion: How does seeing Helps as Spirit-Empowered shape your view of serving?

4. Helps Builds the Church

Believers such as Phoebe, Priscilla and Aquila, Dorcas, Onesiphorus, and Epaphroditus (Rom 16:1–4; Acts 9:36; 2 Tim 1:16; Phil 2:25–30) supported ministry through practical care and partnership. Like the potato peeler enabling a larger meal, their service strengthened gospel mission.

Discussion: Where do you see God using practical service to build the church today?

Application

- Ask where God has placed you and what needs you notice (Esther 4:14; Gal 6:2)
- Seek Spirit-led service, not obligation (1 Cor 13:1–3; Gal 5:13)
- Honour those who serve quietly and faithfully
- Look for “potato peeler moments”—small acts that make big kingdom impact

Reflection: What is one tangible act of Spirit-led service you will do this week?

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, You came not to be served but to serve (Mark 10:45). Fill us with Your Spirit so we may serve with humility, joy, and love. Use our gifts to build up Your body and reflect Your heart. Amen.

Challenge This Week

Do one unseen act of service as worship to God (Matt 6:4).

“What’s Your One?”

At CBC we are asking each person to commit to:

1. One Worship Service
2. One Small group
3. One Ministry – “What’s Your One?”

Download the Church Centre App, Click on Volunteer and look at the options available to you to serve in one of CBC’s ministries.

