

GATEWAYS

Two hands are shown reaching upwards from the bottom of the frame towards the center. The hands are positioned as if they are about to grasp something. The background is a textured, warm-toned surface, possibly wood or stone, with a dark, distressed border at the top and bottom.

SERVE
ONE ANOTHER

GATEWAYS: SERVE

1. Biblical Basis

- Clarity of Scripture on the issues
- Eph 2:8-10...

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

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1. Biblical Basis

— Rom 12:4-5...

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

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1. Biblical Basis

— 1 Pet 4:10-11...

¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

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1. Biblical Basis

— Gal 6:9-10...

⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

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1. Biblical Basis

— James 2:14-17...

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

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2. Greatest Example – John 13:1-17...

It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³ Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God;

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2. Greatest Example – John 13:1-17...

⁴ so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist.

⁵ After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

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2. Greatest Example – John 13:1-17...

⁸ “No,” said Peter, “you shall never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” “Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!” ¹⁰ Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

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2. Greatest Example – John 13:1-17...

¹² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³ “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.

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2. Greatest Example – John 13:1-17...

¹⁶Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

ONE ANOTHER

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a) Jesus Knew

- what was ahead
- the power to avoid was his

b) Jesus Loved

- motivation found in vs. 1
- enough to do a gross job
- his enemy

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c) Jesus Taught

- the reluctant
- by example
- by explaining

d) Jesus Commands

- abandonment of societal ideals
- serve on another like this

e) Jesus Promises

- be blest if you do this

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3. Motivation Matters

- O.T. filled with confirmation of this
- Heart is of great importance
- Phil 2:3-5... ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. ⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus...

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3. Motivation Matters

—Learn from Christ

“... Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own advantage;
⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!”

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a) Position

- surrendered not held on to

b) Posture

- taking the nature of a servant
- humbling himself in form

c) Poured Out

- obedient – even unto death in a horrible way.

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So What

1. Are You Willing to Accept the Biblical Evidence Calling You to Serve?
 - silence inner lawyer
 - accept this is God's intention for you
2. Ask the Holy Spirit to Reveal to You....
 - issues of position
 - issues of posture
 - issues of pride and resistance

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3. Steps to Serving

- your home
- your Christian community
- your workplace
- your city

4. Decide to engage in serving corporately in a ministry or function with others