

MAY 19-25

MONDAY 5/19

PROVERBS 3:27-30

In this passage, a section about the virtures of widsom, Solomon urges us to act justly and generously when we have the opportunity. Serving others is not just a kind gesture – it is a responsibility, a sacred duty. When we withhold help from someone in need, especially when it's within our ability to help, we ignore a divine opportunity to reflect the goodness of god. Service becomes sacred when we recognize it as obedience to the One who provides for us. Even in everyday interactions, we are called to live peaceably, honestly, and generously, modeling a life shaped by grace.

1. When have you had the opportunity to help someone and hesitated? What were some of the reasons that made you hesitate?

2. How might your service to others reflect your trust in God's provision for you life?

ISAIAH 58:6-12

In the preceeding verses, God is expressing disappointment and anger with the people as they perform all the proper outward religious acts, but have hearts that are far from him. True service is more than ritual — it is compassionate action. In Isaiah, God calls out hollow religious practices that lack heart and justice. The sacred fast god desires is one that breaks oppression, feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless, and clothes the naked. Serving others, especially the vulnerable, is a spiritual act of worship. When we live in this kind of mercy and justice, God's presence becomes real through us, and we become like a well-watered garden, nourished by divine strength and purpose.

- 1. How do these verses challenge your view of what it means to be spiritually faithful?
- 2. How can your acts of service move beyond routine to truly reflect God's heart for justice and mercy and compassion?

WEDNESDAY 5/21

1 PETER 4:7-11

As followers of Jesus, we are entrusted with spiritual gifts—not for our own benefit, but to serve others faithfully. Peter reminds us that the end of all things is near, urging us to love deeply, speak graciously, and serve selflessly. Every act of service, when done with the strength God provides, brings glory to him. Whether through hospitality, speaking, or quiet acts of care, our service becomes sacred when it is rooted in love and offered in God's name.

- 1. How does loving others deeply shape the way you speak and act each day (or how should it, if it doesn't really right now)?
- 2. In what ways might you be tempted to serve for recognition rather than for God's glory?

HEBREWS 6:1-10

God sees every quiet act of service, every unseen kindness, and every labor done in love. The writer of Hebrews reminds believers that their efforts to serve others are not overlooked by God. Even when our service seems small or goes unrecognized by people, it is remembered and valued by the One we serve. In God's kingdom, serving others is a sacred reflection of our love for him. Let us not grow weary in doing good, knowing that faithful service is never wasted.

- 1. Have you ever felt discouraged in serving? How could this verse encourage you to persevere?
- 2. How can or do you renew your motivation to serve from a place of love rather than obligation?

FRIDAY 5/23

PSALM 112

This short Psalm is an image of a righteous life that overflows with generosity, compassion, and strength. The person who fears the Lord and delights in his commands is not only blessed, but also becomes a source of blessing to others. Their acts of justice and mercy have a lasting impact. Serving others generously is not only a sacred act in and of itself, such expressons of love shape a legacy of faith that endures. The life that gives freely reflects the steadfast love of God and shines light into a world of darkness.

- 1. What is the connection between generosity and righteousness as the Psalmist describes? How have you experienced this?
- 2. What kind of legacy are you building through the way you serve and give?

ROMANS 12:9-21

Serving others begins with genuine love. In this passage, Paul gives a rich and practical picture of what Christian service looks like: sincere affection, patient endurance, hospitality, humility, and even loving enemies. When we serve in this spirit, we reflect the very heart of Jesus. It's not always easy – but it is a holy, sacred act. We overcome evil with good, not through strength or success, but by persistent love in action. In doing so, we become living sacrifices, pleasing to God.

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1.	Which of the commands in this passage stands out as most challenging for you right now?
2.	What does it look like for you to "honor others above yourself" in practical terms this week?
"Love	or the week: must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be d to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves." (Romans 12:9-10)

NOTES