

Hebrews 13:20-21; 1 Peter 4:8-11

January 21, 2024

Hebrews 13:20 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

CONNECTION

- Can you think of an example from your walk with God where he gave you exactly what you needed, right when you needed it?
- From your own experience, are you more satisfied when you are serving others or when others are serving you?
- How is our spiritual health affected by our service or lack of service?

OBSERVATION

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ HEBREWS 13:20-21.

- How does Jesus, as our Great Shepherd, help us carry out God's will?
- What gospel promises are mentioned in these verses that guarantee we will be equipped to carry out What resources has God given us to carry out his command to "make disciples of all nations"? What resources has he given us so we can love our enemies and lay down our lives for others?
- Has God ever used you to supply something for someone just in the nick of time? Have you ever had someone tell you, "I was just praying for this," when you did something for them?
- How does it make you feel knowing that God works through you to carry out His will? How does that encourage you to do more for God?
- God's will in our lives as we serve others?

ASK A VOLUNTEER TO READ 1 PETER 4:8-11.

- How can our serving of others and the church help show the love of Christ?
- Usually when we think of being good stewards we think of financial stewardship. However, what type of stewardship is commanded in v. 10.
- While there are many reasons to serve, what is the primary one given in verse 11.

RESPONSE

- Is there an area of ministry that you feel God is calling you to serve in?
- How does serving in the way God has called us give us further opportunity to share the gospel with others?