

Service

The gift of service is the ability to see concrete, practical work that needs to be done for groups or programs to function, and volunteer to do it.

Scriptural References

Luke 10:38-42, Luke 22:24-27, Acts 6:1-7, Acts 9:36, Romans 16:1, Philippians 4:2-3, 1 Timothy 3:8-10

Biblical Models

Martha, Dorcas, Phoebe, Euodia and Syntyche

People with this gift can

- Provide the practical work that needs to be done in any group or program.
- Enjoy working behind-the-scenes.

Cautions

- May rush in and take over tasks that others were already planning to do.
- May be taken advantage of.
- May “help” in a way that is bossy or controlling.
- May be judgemental of those who need to be asked to help; who don't volunteer as quickly and naturally as those with this gift.
- May burn out, or neglect other aspects of Christian life.

Personal Traits

- Helpful
- Diligent
- Responsible
- Practical
- Caring
- Conscientious

Tips for nurturing this gift

- Let your church know this is your gift and of any specific skills and interests you have.
- When joining an existing activity, offer where you can help and wait for acceptance before jumping in.
- As well as developing practical skills, develop skills at working with others, team work, etc.

Possible Tasks

- Helping with coffee after church, extra jobs in the office, ushering, setting up & cleaning up for events, typing, stuffing envelopes, odd jobs, ...

Not to be confused with the responsibility of all Christians to ...

Offer a helping hand.