



SERVICE

Desire: *To reflect the helping, caring and sharing love of God in the world.*

Definition: *Service is a way of offering resources, time, treasure, influence and expertise for the care, protection, justice, and nurture of others. Acts of service give hands to the second greatest commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself."*

Scripture: *"This is the kind of fast day I'm after: to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts. What I'm interested in seeing you do is: sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families" (Isaiah 58:6-7)*

God-given fruit:

- *being free to leave your comfort zone and risk yourself in service*

Reflection Questions:

1. *What is it like to be loved by someone as he or she loves themselves?*
2. *Do you like to be served or to serve? How does this affect the way you live?*

Spiritual Exercises:

1. *Ask someone you trust to give you their take on what your spiritual gifts may be. Plan a way of using your gifts to benefit others in the next week and month.*
2. *Divide a paper into three columns. Above one column write, "For Me." Above the second, "For Others." Above the third, "For God." Review the past week or month. Jot down in each column the things you have bought and done for yourself, others and God. What does this inventory reveal about your life? Read Luke 23, what has God given because he loves you? How would you like to see your answers change over time? Listen to God's promptings.*