October 6, 2019

Scriptures: 1 Peter 4:7-11, Romans 12:6-13 NIV.

Title: What Are You Doing With Your Talents? Be A Channel of God’s Grace.

**Introduction:** As part of The United Methodist Church membership vows, when you join the church, you promise to faithfully participate in the church through your [*prayers*](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/a-promise-to-pray-honoring-our-united-methodist-vow)*,*[*presence*](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/the-blessings-of-presence-honoring-our-united-methodist-vow)*,*[*gifts*](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/share-your-gifts-honoring-our-united-methodist-vow)*, service and*[*witness*](http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/what-it-means-to-witness-honoring-our-united-methodist-vow)*.* How can you be the channel of God’s grace through each of the membership vows? The emphasis today is on our membership vow of service. How are we going to be channel of God’s grace through service?

**1. We can be a channel of God’s grace when we love each other.** Our Spiritual vitality depends on loving each other. “Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.” (1 Peter 4:8 NIV) In evaluating your life, as we seek to make an impact for Christ, ask yourself these questions: How have I shown love?

**2. We can be channels of God’s grace when we are hospitable and uncomplaining**. Ask yourself one question, what is the prime reason for hospitality? Is it to be nice and accommodating to others? The reason for hospitality is to share with others what God has blessed us with. Even more important is how hospitality should be extended.

**“**Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.” (Philippians 2:14-15).

**3.** **We can be channels of God’s grace when we learn to serve one another.** GOD has assigned you something you can do for a purpose. Before you were born, he determined what gifts you would need to have in order to accomplish his duty.

“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+12%3A6-13&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28252a)] faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach …” (Romans 12:6-7 NIV).

**Conclusion**: What will you do intentionally starting today to do better at loving, sharing, and serving?