

## **Serve**

*1 Peter 4:7-11*

As people who have responded to God's grace, we are the church of Christ. While there are many characteristics of the church that we could explore, as part of my final words before retirement, I have chosen to focus on five. All of them would fit under the umbrella of love. We have already looked at our call to forgive and to encourage. Today we focus on our responsibility to serve one another.

### **Necessity of Prayer**

Urgent

Self-controlled

Sober-minded

### **Primacy of Love**

Earnest - proceeding from an intense and serious state of mind

Effect – covering a multitude of sins

### **Genuine Hospitality**

To one another

Without grumbling

### **Spiritual Gifts**

Received - gift/grace

To serve one another

Good stewards – faithful, diligent, efficient

God's varied grace – different gifts

Speaking – taking seriously God's word

Serving – by strength supplied by God

### **Glorious Purpose**

God is glorified – His power and excellency displayed

Through Jesus Christ - grace

He is supreme and worthy and eternal