

Introduction

- A. Jesus turned the common notion of greatness on its head by washing feet (Jn 13)
 - B. Grace manifests itself in varied ways through the service of the saints (1 Pet 4:10)
 - C. How is God's grace shining through you in the context of the local church and even beyond? Do you know what your gift is?
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- I. The Place of Gifted Service (4:10a)
 - A. Each person in the church has a gift (4:10a)
 - B. Peter has in mind ordinary gifts as opposed to the "signed" gifts
 - C. There is no one divinely inspired list of gifts
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- II. The Purpose of Gifted Service (4:10, 11)
 - A. Twofold Purpose of Gifted Service (4:10, 11)
 - 1. Use it as a steward to serve on another (4:10)
 - 2. Use it for God's glory and not your own (4:11c)
 - B. Two Specific Categories of Gifts
 - 1. Speaking, as one speaking the oracles of God (4:11a; cf. Isa 8:20)
 - 2. Service is by the strength that God supplies (4:11b)
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- III. Finding Your Patch on the Multi-Colored Robe of God's Grace
 - A. *What are the needs of the congregation?*
 - B. *Where has the Lord given you some level of expertise, experience, know-how, and success?*
 - C. *Does the congregation recognize my gifted service in this area?*
 - 1. Internal calling and external calling required for eldership and diaconate
 - D. *Use your creativity and the needs of the saints to suggest an area of service that would be beneficial to the congregation*
 - E. *In some cases, your service to the church may not be something specifically tailored to you. Instead, it may simply be your presence and participation*
 - F. *In what sense should we "follow our heart?"*

Conclusion: Why would Peter assume that in approaching the subject of service, that this God-centered perspective would take root in the very fibers of the congregation?