



The Privileges and Responsibilities

Date: October 20, 2024

Text: Eph 1:5, Romans 12:5, I Peter 1:3, Colossians 3:15

BIG IDEA

Once while working in a gym, a coworker started a client off on a treadmill. After hitting the start button, she turned to her clipboard to fill out her form, only to realize that her client was slowly gliding past her! The client was treating the treadmill as though it were a ride, standing still. My coworker dropped her clipboard, hopped on the back of the treadmill and yelled, “Move your feet! Move your feet!” Thankfully the client got the hang of it, avoiding a fall.

If we don’t move our feet, we will not benefit from exercising on a treadmill. Similarly, we do not have to be part of a local church in order to be a follower of Christ. Yet in order to grow and minister as a Christian, we need to be in regular fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Jesus.

Conversation Starter

- Have you ever tried to accomplish a project or task on your own, only to realize you needed help from others? What did you learn from that experience?



COMMENTARY #1

(Ephesians 1:5, Romans 12:5, I Peter 1:3) Becoming a Christian brings us into a new life, and into a family. We are part of His body, the church. The Lord does not intend for us to simply pose for the family photo on special occasions. He has intentionally blessed us with gifts and talents, privileges and responsibilities. In exercising these, we are blessed and are a blessing to others. There are certain things that can only be accomplished for the Kingdom when we are serving together as part of His body.

Discussion Questions

1. What are the privileges of being adopted into the family of God? (Ephesians 1:5, I Peter 1:3)
 2. What do we learn from Romans 12:5 about our connection with other Christians?
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COMMENTARY #2

(Ephesians 2:19) In a culture of ever-growing social isolation, Pastor Robin Scott points out three benefits we receive when we join a church family:



1. We receive support in our times of need.
2. We have examples to live by.
3. We have opportunities to use our gifts.

Being able to serve others and allowing others to help us when we are in need are vital to a flourishing life. Learning from other brothers and sisters in Christ in how to apply our faith in any number of situations is also a great gift.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you experienced times of need when the church has pitched in to help you?
2. Do you have questions about how to walk as Jesus would in certain situations in your family, school, workplace, or in other relationships?
3. Are you familiar with your spiritual gifts and where they can be used in the church? If not, be sure to see the free options offered by Asbury under “Additional Resources” below.

GOING DEEPER

1. What things are holding you back from being more involved in the church? What can you do to resolve these obstacles?



2. Paul rarely underwent ministry alone. In his letters and the book of Acts, we see him serving alongside Aquila and Priscilla, Timothy, Silvanus, Titus, Barnabus, Urbanus, Epaphroditus, Clement, Aristarchus, Mark, and Justus, Philemon, Demas, Luke, and others. Are you seeking to serve the Lord alone, or do you have brothers and sisters in Christ who are encouraging you and working alongside you? How can you invite other believers to join with you in your witness and work?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

To learn more about the groups available at Asbury, use the “search groups” feature at weareasbury.com/groups. Or, fill out the inquiry form to let us know how we can help you find a great fit.

To learn more about your spiritual gifts and also opportunities to serve through Asbury, see weareasbury.com/serve.

Be sure to check out [this free S.H.A.P.E. assessment](#) to find out about your spiritual gifts!



GROUP ACTIVITY

In your current church group, share one unknown thing about your life—a hidden talent, your favorite type of music, a place you've visited or want to visit.

Is there a group you've thought the church should have but does not? Brainstorm about what that may look like with others in your group.

Is there a ministry you are in, (i.e. friends or family you are seeking to share Jesus with), that could be better served in the company of other believers? Can you share these concerns with your small group for prayer and perhaps practical assistance?