



Be Faithful to the End

忠心到底 အဆုံးတိုင် သစ္စာရှိပါ။

**With God's gifts,
we serve together**

**With God's love,
we are our
brother's keeper**

**With God's
blessings, we
give generously**

**With God's
message, we
share the Gospel**

SERVING TOGETHER with God's Gifts



Rom 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.

6We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it ... **7**If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; **8**if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing... let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. **9**Love must be sincere... **10**Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. **11**Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.

THRUST

Christian living within a community and serving God as well as others through sacrifice is a spiritual worship unto God.



Go to the ant and consider its ways and be wise!



ANTS
TEAMWORK

1 BE LIKE THE ANTS

They're self-initiated and self-motivated to do everything they can to help their colony thrive.



**I will build My Church, and
the gates of Hades will not
overcome it.**

Mt 16:18

a

THINK

like the ants

a

THINK

like the ants

be kingdom-minded



”

**Seek first the
Kingdom of God and
His righteousness.**

Mt 6:33

b

BEHAVE

like the ants



”

**Rejoice with those
who rejoice, weep
with those who
weep.**

Rom 12:15



”

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness... Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

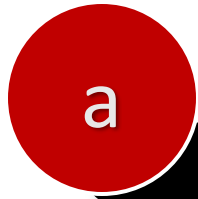
Gal 6:1-2

2

WORK LIKE THE ANTS

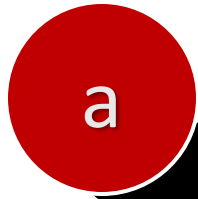
Ants are always on the go and work with limitless energy – moving fast and acting purposefully.





WORK

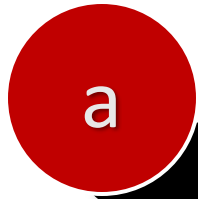
as a team



WORK

as a team

ants understand division of labour



WORK

as a team

know our role, function, giftings



**to each one of us grace
(charis) has been given
as Christ apportioned it**

Eph 4:7



**He gave some to be apostles...
some... prophets...some
evangelists... some pastors and
teachers**

Eph 4:11a



**... to prepare God's people for
works of service, so that the
Body of Christ may be built up**

Eph 4:11b



... until ALL reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Eph 4:13

i) Members reach unity

ii) Members become mature



... the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, **grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.**

Eph 4:16

b

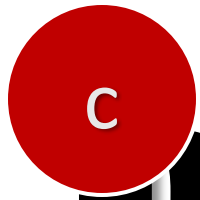
COMMUNICATE with one another

Ants communicate by leaving pheromones to let others know where to head to when a food source is found. They communicate by touching each other's antennae to pass information.

b

COMMUNICATE with one another

God has poured **agape** into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. With agape, we communicate with each other.



BUILD & DEFEND **the community**

Ants know they must build their colony. They forage food to feed all; gather leaves and twigs to renovate living quarters; and care & defend entire colony.



Our Food Supply

Manna

Milk

Meat

Heb 5:12-13

For though by this time, you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the **basic principles** of the oracles of God. You need **milk**, not solid food, for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. But **solid food is for the mature**, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.

1 Cor 3:1-3

Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as **worldly** —mere **infants in Christ**. I gave you **milk**, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly... there is jealousy and quarrelling among you...

ii

Building Materials

As you come to Him, the **Living Stone** — rejected by men but chosen by God... — you also, like **living stones**, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Christ.

1 Pet 2:4-5

ii

Building Materials

You are no longer foreigners... but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the CHIEF CORNERSTONE. In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.

Eph 2:19-22

iii

Weaponry

Eph 6:11-18

- 1) **The Belt of Truth buckled around the waist**
- 2) **The Breastplate of Righteousness**
- 3) **The Gospel of Peace in place, with feet fitted with the readiness**
- 4) **The Shield of Faith to extinguish Satan's arrows**
- 5) **The Helmet of Salvation**
- 6) **The Sword of the Spirit**
- 7) **All kinds of Prayers and Requests**

Eph 6:11

Put on the **full armour** of
God so that you can take
your **stand against the**
devil's schemes.



WORK

in perfect coordination

12The body is **a unit**, though it is made up of **many parts**; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So, it is with Christ. **13**For we were all baptized by **one** Spirit into **one** body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the **one** Spirit to drink. **14**Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. **15**If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. **16**And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. **17**If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

18 But in fact **God has arranged the parts** in the body, every one of them, **just as He wanted them to be.** **19** If they were all one part, where would the body be? **20** As it is, there are many parts, but one body.



Unity in Diversity

**There's one body but
many parts.**

And in the Church, God has appointed
first of all apostles, second prophets, third
teachers, then workers of miracles, also
those having gifts of healing, those able
to help others, those with gifts of
administration, and those speaking in
different kinds of tongues.

ii

Unity in inclusivity

Everyone, who's baptised by the Spirit into the Church, assumes one identity in Christ. Therefore, there's no Jews or Greeks, slaves or free. All are equal and one in Christ.

1 Pet 4:10-11

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.



CONCLUSION

- 1) We've gone to the ant and considered its way and noted that we're better circumstanced than they**
- 2) We've gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12, gifts of ministries in Romans 12 and 1 Peter 4 – to use them productively**
- 3) We're sovereignly put here in Elim as contributing members to work in tandem with others to build our church**



- 1) You have a gift to serve in Elim. Will you use it?**
- 2) Your gifting can be refined. Will you ask God to help you develop them by using them more or seek others to train you?**
- 3) Do you struggle to serve with others? Why you accommodate others and work with them?**
- 4) You have only one life. Will you consecrate it to God and use it to the utmost by serving God together with others?**