

# Serve One Another

Pastor Barb & Vince



## Scripture

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13

## Thought

To say that my husband is my opposite would be a gross understatement. For instance, he likes his closet sorted by color and function while my closet looks like a small explosion hit at any given point of the day. He likes to tinker in the garage, I like to be out doing things with friends. He thinks a 21 degree day is perfect in the summer – I think 31 degrees is much more acceptable. He likes his vehicle clean and orderly and I am oblivious to anything other than who is in the car with me, including details like whether I have any gas in my tank (Or oil in the engine but that's a story for a different day). One evening Vince needed to use my car and when he got in, he was greeted by all manner of items and when he looked down, he realized he was driving on an empty tank. For whatever reason, that night was a tipping point for him. He was furious. He told me later how as he stood there, angrily filling my gas tank, he let his mind go down that dangerous path of all the things he was going to tell me once he got back home– how I had better start carrying my share of things or else. That I was slacking in my part of our household duties– that I was somehow shirking my responsibilities and he was the only one in the marriage working hard. (Ever have any of those thoughts about your spouse?) And in the middle of his inner rantings, the Holy Spirit convicted him, that instead of being angry with me, he should just do a better job of taking care of me. Instead of shaming me, he was supposed to serve me.

From that day forward I can honestly say Vince became a different husband. To this day he looks for ways to serve me and bless me. He fills my gas tank, makes sure my oil gets changed, makes me breakfast the mornings he is home and basically looks for all the little things he can do to show me how much he loves me. And that one decision, that day filling my gas tank, has shaped our marriage. Before you worry for him, be assured that I also look for ways to serve him, to bless him, to show him how much I love him daily. He's well looked after.

## Action Step

Stop keeping score in your marriage. Marriage needs to be a mutual serving of one another – and it won't always be a 50/50 arrangement. It's not a business arrangement based on what's "fair" but rather about showing love, humility and putting the other person ahead of your own preferences. Look for practical simple ways to serve your spouse this week. Side Note: we all have a different love language. Serve your spouse by discovering theirs and then learn how to speak it fluently.

## Prayer

Lord forgive me for all the times I've shamed my spouse or been angry with them instead of just deciding I will serve them. Help me to not serve only if I'm served in response but simply because it's what you have called me to do as a believer in Christ. Give me your grace to serve my spouse well. In Jesus Name. Amen.

## P.S.

This tip is especially true in the bedroom!! Sex is so much better when you both decide to serve each other's needs and not just your own. (You're welcome in advance)