

## Essential Building Blocks for Servant Leadership

(**Building** blocks are defined as an important part of construction that are grouped together with many other similar things to form something larger.)

*“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock, I will **build** my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*  
**Matthew 16:18.**

The word ‘**build**’ is the Gk. word, ‘*oikodomé*’, which means to edify, to build up, or to encourage another. It is the building up of one’s character, or to erect a building. To edify means to uplift, to inform, or to enlighten another. The word translated ‘edify’ means to be a ‘house-builder’. To build up is to offer instruction and/or *constructive* criticism that, in turn, *builds a person up* to be a *suitable dwelling place for God*. To encourage is to inspire, or lift another.

**Building Block #1** - Ephesians 4:11-12 says, “<sup>11</sup> *And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,* <sup>12</sup> *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*”

Servant leaders focus on the growth and well-being of its people. The five-fold ministry are servant leaders.

**Building Block #2** - 1 Corinthians 14:12 says “*Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.*”

**Building Block #3** - 1 Thessalonians 5:11(NLT) says “*So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.*”

**Building Block #4** - Romans 14:19 says “*Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may **edify** another.*”

**Building Block #5** - 1 Corinthians 6:19 says “*What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*”

**Building Block #6** - 1 Kings 6:7 says “*And the house (Solomon temple), when it was in building, was built of stone made ready before it was brought thither: so that there was neither hammer nor axe nor any tool of iron heard in the house, while it was in building.*”

The temple was built in silence.

It speaks of the purity, glory, holiness, respect, and separateness to God. The silence was due to an instinct of reverence for God. We are the temple of God.

All the materials that were used required preparation. The stones were quarried, squared, and fitted for the building of the temple with many a hard knock and cutting of the chisel. After this, they were carried to the temple for placement.

**Building Block #7** - 1 Thessalonians 4:11 says, “*Study to be quiet, and to **do your own business**, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.*”

**Building Block #8** - Ephesians 4:16 says “*From whom the whole body fitly **joined** together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*”

Servant leaders are servants first, and should be good listeners. They are committed to the growth, training, and development of their people.

We also, as **lively stones**, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5

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