

Day 14 - Serving Others

Jesus laid down His life as the ultimate example of serving others. As everyday disciples of Jesus, we serve and love those around us as a result of experiencing Christ's love personally. Our calling is not one of obsessing about ourselves. We have been made new in Christ, and the Holy Spirit wants to powerfully equip us for good works. We are invited to a daily surrender of our wills so we can enjoy a soul-satisfying partnership with the Holy Spirit. We may not die for someone else like Jesus, but each day is a new opportunity to lay down our comfort and self-focus to serve others in the name of Jesus.

What could it look like for you to sacrificially serve others, putting someone else's needs and desires before your own?

Our focus scripture for today is Galatians 5:13 and Hebrews 6:10

¹³ "For you were called to be free, brothers and sisters; only don't use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh but serve one another through love."

¹⁰ "For God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you demonstrated for His name by serving the saints—and by continuing to serve them."

Jesus sets us free from the slavery of sin. But we shouldn't use our newfound freedom as an opportunity to live in the flesh consumed by selfishness. Instead, this new freedom empowers us to freely love and serve others as God has loved us. Serving is not about being seen and recognized by others but knowing that Jesus sees and will never forget things done in His name. Jesus' people are known for how they serve.

Pause to remember that Jesus gave us a perfect example of love in how he interacted with others. He went out of His way to sit with and serve tax-collectors, zealots, the sick, and sinners - those who most often are disregarded. What is standing in the way of you "going out of your way" and serving others like Jesus?

As an invitation to a spiritual practice—a way to say "yes, Lord," today break from your routine and serve someone. It may be as simple as asking a co-worker how their weekend was, buying someone a coffee, or providing a meal for a grieving family. Serving comes in many different forms - doing both big and small things in ways consistent with Jesus' character always makes an eternal impact.

Prepare to walk with God into the day before us, the Lord who loves us says in:

Romans 12:10-11 ¹⁰ "Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters. Take the lead in honoring one another. ¹¹ Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit, serve the Lord."

Father, help us discern where you are leading us as a church - making Your invitation clear.

Jesus, help us become worshipers, friends, apprentices, and guides who live as disciple-makers in all areas of our everyday.

Spirit, help us become a disciple-making hub, loving the lost and proclaiming Jesus in all we do and say so our communities will flourish.