



WAYS OF LIFE

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2v10 (ESV)

1

God created you to serve him.

(you are God's handiwork)

You were put on earth to make a specific contribution in the Kingdom of God.

God gave you a distinct personality, gifts, and passions - all things that have potential to contribute to the Kingdom of God through selfless service.

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I set you apart.

Jeremiah 1v5

2

God saved you to serve him.

(created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand)

You were not saved *by* service, but saved *for* service.

What you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. **You are serving the Lord Christ.**

Colossians 3v23-24

3

God calls you to serve him.

(that we should walk in them)

A non-servant Christian is an oxymoron.

As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.

John 20v21 (ESV)

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2v1-11 ESV

Jesus did not come as a servant in spite of the fact that he is God; he came precisely because of the fact that he is God.

Jesus shows us exactly what God is like.

The way of service is the way of self-sacrificial love for God and others.

Serving is a spiritual practice.

More than any other single way the grace of humility is worked into our lives through the discipline of service... Nothing disciplines the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, but nothing transforms the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness. The flesh whines against service but screams against hidden service. It strains and pulls for honor and recognition.

- Richard Foster

The way of service right-sizes our heart to be more like Jesus.

Servant vs Volunteer

<i>Servant</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>
Who you are	What you do
Focused on the people they serve	Focused on the task
Expects no praise or recognition	Could potentially feel hurt if not recognized for their contribution
Willing to sacrifice their self-interests	Does what works best for them and their schedules/priorities
Willing to be interrupted	Tends to be less flexible
Committed to the mission	Freedom to leave at any time
Motivated by love	Motivated by obligation

How are we helping each other cultivate a heart (as a community) of service to Jesus?

You serve the Lord Christ!

LOVE WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED
PRAY. SERVE. GIVE.

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