

# “Calling People Higher”

*Part 4: Success through Serving*



We grow through making and keeping  
commitments.

- *calling people higher*





**What should I do to  
serve God?**



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# 1) What I am gifted for

*God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.—1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)*

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2) What God has already helped me through

*[God] comes alongside us when we go through hard times, and before you know it, he brings us alongside someone else who is going through hard times so that we can be there for that person just as God was there for us.—2 Corinthians 1:4 (MSG)*

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3) What I have a passion for

*We loved you so much that we shared with you not only God's Good News but our own lives, too.*—1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NLT)

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#### 4) What needs to be done

*And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching.— Titus 2:7 (NLT)*

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**How does the Bible  
say I am to serve?**



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# 1) Zealously

*Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.—*

Romans 12:11 (NIV)

*Work hard and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion.—*

Romans 12:11 (GNT)

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## 2) Cheerfully

*Serve the LORD with gladness...–Psalm  
100:2 (NKJV)*

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**If you want to be happy for an hour,  
TAKE A NAP!**

**If you want to be happy for a day,  
GO FISHING!**

**If you want to be happy for a week,  
TAKE A TRIP!**

**If you want to be happy for a year,  
RECEIVE AN INHERITANCE!**

**If you want to be happy for a lifetime,  
SERVE CHRIST BY SERVING OTHERS!**

### 3) Like Jesus

*“Who is more important, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves? The one who sits at the table, of course. But not here! For I am among you as one who serves.”— Luke 22:27 (NLT)*

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4) As an extension of my relationship with Jesus Christ

*“On judgment day many will say to me, ‘Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.’ But I will reply, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God’s laws.’”*—Matthew 7:22-23 (NLT)

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## 5) Faithfully

*I was overjoyed when the brothers and sisters arrived and spoke highly of your faithfulness to the truth, shown by how you live according to the truth.—3 John 1:3 (CEB)*

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**Where should my  
service be  
directed?**



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# 1) Within the body of Christ

*All of you together are Christ's body,  
and each of you is a part of it.—1  
Corinthians 12:27 (NLT)*

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## 2) Among other believers

*Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.—Galatians 6:10 (NLT)*

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*By doing good, especially to them that are of the household of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another, helping each other in business, and so much the more because the world will love its own and them only.—*

John Wesley

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### 3) Toward the unbelieving world

*"Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help*

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*you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that's charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that.*

*"I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father*

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*lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind.”—Luke 6:32-36 (MSG)*

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**Why does God  
want me to serve?**



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1) Makes me a conduit for God's love to others

*After all, who is Apollos? Who is Paul? We are only God's servants.... Each of us did the work the Lord gave us. I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow.—1 Corinthians 3:5-6 (NLT)*

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## 2) Fulfills my purpose in life

*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.—Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)*

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3) Reveals God's transforming work to the world

*“You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.*

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*“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”—Matthew 5:13-16 (NLT)*

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4) Expresses my grateful response to God's work in me

*“Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”—Matthew 10:8 (NIV)*

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