

The Christian Arsenal

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INVESTING YOUR LIFE THROUGH SERVICE Investing Your Life

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PART 3 of 7

The secret of a great life is you're never going to be great until you learn to serve.

"Whoever wants to become great must be a servant to others." Matthew 20:26 (GWT)

God says the way up is down.

"For even I didn't come to be served but to serve others and to give my life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:45 (NLT)

WHY I SHOULD INVEST MY LIFE IN SERVICE?

1. I WAS CREATED FOR SERVICE.

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

2. I AM SAVED FOR SERVICE.

"It is God who saved us and chose us for His holy work." 2 Tim. 1:9 (LB)

The Bible teaches very clearly that maturity is for ministry.

3. I'VE BEEN CALLED BY GOD TO SERVICE.

"God, in His grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve Him." Galatians 1:15 (GN)

"Live a life worthy of the calling you have received." Eph. 4:1 (NIV)

The Bible says the call to salvation and the call to service are identical.

God does not call the equipped, He equips the called.

4. I'VE BEEN GIFTED FOR SERVICE.

"God has given each of you some special abilities. Be sure to use them to help each other." 1 Peter 4:10 (LB)

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5. I AM COMMANDED TO SERVE OTHERS.

“Your attitude must be like my own, for I did not come to be served, but to serve...” Matt 20:28 (LB)

Service for a Christian is not optional.

A non-ministering Christian is a contradiction.

A mature Christian is interested in service – an immature Christian is interested in serve-us.

6. IT PROVES THAT I BELONG TO CHRIST.

“...you are part of the body of Christ and you belong to Him... in order that we might be useful in the service of God.” Romans 7:4 (GN)

Ministry and not attendance is evidence that Christ is in you!

7. MY CHURCH FAMILY NEEDS MY SERVICE.

“All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.” 1 Cor. 12:27 (LB)

If you're a Christian that means you're part of the body of Christ. If you're not functioning it makes the rest of us sick. It makes an unhealthy body.

8. SERVING OTHERS IS THE WAY TO SERVE GOD.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men... It's the Lord you're serving.” Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)

9. BECAUSE I OWE EVERYTHING TO CHRIST.

“Because of God's great mercy to us offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service.” Romans 12:1 (GN)

I don't serve God out of duty
Fear
Guilt
Anger

I serve God out of gratitude.

10. BECAUSE SERVICE MAKES LIFE MEANINGFUL.

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"If you try to keep your life for yourself, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will find true life." Mark 8:35 (NLT)

WORLD SAYS: Finders keepers – losers weepers
GOD SAYS: Losers keepers – finders weepers

You're going to give your life away for something. The question is – are you going to give your life for the right thing?

Some give their lives away for career
Big bank account
Pleasure
Level of status

How much is what you are giving your life away for going to matter in eternity?

It's not how long you live that matters, it's how you live that matters. It's not the duration of your life, but the donation of your life.

"Keep busy in your work for the Lord since you know that nothing you do in the Lord's service is ever without value." I Cor. 15:58 (GN)

11. I WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR MY SERVICE.

"Each of us will have to give a personal account to God." Romans 14:12

12. BECAUSE I WILL BE REWARDED FOR ETERNITY.

"My Father will honor anyone who serves me." John 12:26 (NCV)

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You've been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!"

MY RESPONSE

"Teach me to serve you with complete devotion." Psalm 86:11 (GN)

"Serve the Lord with gladness." Psalm 100:2 (KJV)