

SERVE ONE ANOTHER

PRECEPT

Galatians 5:13

¹³ You have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

PROMISE

The greatest tragedy in life isn't simply dying without success. The greatest tragedy is living our entire lives without fulfilling the purpose for which God created us. Every product has a purpose; every Christian has been saved for a purpose. One of those purposes is to serve God by serving His people.

Every one of us enjoys being served. We appreciate it when someone opens the door for us. Serving is easy when we're the ones receiving, but the real question is: are we just as willing to serve others? Serving becomes Christlike when we're the ones giving.

Through Jesus, we have been set free. We have been set free from the guilt of sin. We have been set free from trying to earn God's acceptance through our good works. This means that we do not serve so that God will save us; we serve because God has already saved us. We do not serve to earn God's love, but because we have already received God's love. When your identity and worth are rooted in Christ, you no longer need a position to feel important. You can serve quietly and faithfully, even when no one notices, because you know that God sees you. We don't serve for victory. We serve from the victory Jesus has already given us.

Freedom does not mean: "I can do whatever I want." It means: "Through Christ, I am now free to do what honours God." Because without Christ, we naturally live for ourselves; we prioritize our comfort. That is our sinful nature—the desire to place ourselves at the centre of everything. We enjoy the ministry, but we don't want to carry any of its responsibility. Sometimes those statements may be understandable. We all need rest, and nobody can serve in every ministry, but we must honestly examine our hearts. If we serve only when it is convenient, we are serving ourselves. If we serve only when we are recognized, we are serving our pride, but when we serve out of love, we are serving Christ. When we serve even when it costs us something, we begin to reflect Jesus. Christian freedom is not the freedom to live only for ourselves. It is the freedom to move beyond ourselves and lovingly serve others.

Our service must be motivated by love—not by guilt, pressure, competition, or the desire for recognition. It is possible to serve without truly loving, but genuine love will always lead us to serve. Love changes our attitude toward service; without love, service becomes a burden. Mark 10:45 says, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jesus is the Son of God—the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Yet He said He did not come to be served, but He came to serve. Let us serve—not because we have to, but because we love Him. Let us serve—not to receive recognition, but to reflect Jesus.

PRACTICE

1. **Serve.** Why do you think serving is often easier to receive than to give? What are some barriers that keep people from serving others?
2. **One Another.** Is there an area of service God has been prompting you to step into? And how can we pray for you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Church

- May each of us desire to seek God and extend His love to our family and communities.

II. Ministries

- Pray that God will empower all of our ministries with sincerity and strength.

III. Life Link

- Pray that our ushers will serve our brethren filled with the Holy Spirit.

IV. Life Sports

- Thank God for a healthy body, abilities, and the gift of sports.

V. Life Kids

- Pray for more volunteers and for our children to encounter God.

VI. Life Line

- Pray that we foster genuine connection through our social media postings.

VII. Life Worship

- May they continue to wholeheartedly serve God and His people.