

What's the Point?

What's the point of serving?

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Pastor Dale Satrum

Part 5



1. Serving provides expression for your _____

1 Corinthians 12:7 "A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other." (NLT=New Living Translation)

1 Corinthians 12:11 "It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have." (NLT)

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

- Serving allows you to discover your gift
- Serving allows you to employ your gift

2. Serving grows your _____

James 2:14-17 "What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? ¹⁷So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless" (NLT)

- Serving expresses your faith
- Serving expands your faith

3. Serving produces _____

Ephesians 2:10 "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." (NLT)

- Through serving we experience purpose
- Through serving we experience destiny

4. Serving is living like _____

Philippians 2:4-7 "Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being." (NLT)

- Serving represents Jesus' attitude
- Serving represents Jesus' behavior

5. Serving grows the _____

Ephesians 4:16 "He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." (NLT)

- Serving embraces responsibility for church health
- Serving accepts God's plan for church health

He makes the whole body fit together perfectly...

6. Serving is loving _____

Galatians 5:13 "For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." (ESV=English Standard Version)

- Serving protects us from selfishness
- Serving is love in action

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Discussion Questions:

1. What has your experience been with serving? Share the positive and the negative.
2. We answered the question about serving in 6 ways. There is a lot of information in this message so take your time. Go through each point and discuss the "HOW." How does serving accomplish each one of these results? Talk about your own experiences.
3. Discuss application. How can you grow in serving? It may be a time to begin getting involved. For others, it could be a time to go deeper, grow in knowledge of yourself and your gifting. Possibly, it is time for some of you to take more risk? How is God asking you to grow?



Next week's message: What's the point of giving?

Prepare for next week by reading: 2 Cor. 9 (the entire chapter)