

Intro to Serving at New Life



Romans 12:11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord.

Thanks for serving! The goal of this orientation is to help you serve the Lord with joy!

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Because of your decision to serve...

1) The body of Christ will grow and be built up.

Ephesians 4:16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

2) People will experience God's grace through your life.

1 Peter 4:10 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

3) You'll be playing a part in the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

4) You'll be accomplishing your God-given purpose to serve the Lord.

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

5) You'll grow stronger spiritually.

1 Timothy 3:13 Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

Five Decisions to Serve with Joy

To serve with joy, we need to identify and avoid the joy robbers.

Serving turns from a joy to a job when...

- 1) I forget that it's Christ I'm serving.
 - 2) I serve without God's power in my life.
 - 3) I neglect my spiritual lifeline.
 - 4) I serve in an area I'm not gifted in.
 - 5) I over-commit and/or under-estimate.
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1) Serve as if you're serving God, not the church.

Ephesians 6:7 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men,

Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men

Q – What are the implications of the fact that you're serving God, and not just helping out at church?

2) Prioritize closeness with Christ and Dependency on the Holy Spirit.

John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Galatians 3:3 Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

3) Don't let serving God edge out spending time with God

Luke 10: 38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. 39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. 40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" 41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, 42 but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Q – On the Mary/Martha continuum, where are you?

Q – What helps you stay connected - especially if you're a Martha-type?

Prioritize your spiritual lifeline

- A) Personal prayer
- B) Small Group
- C) Church Attendance

4) Find a balance between helping where needed and working with your gifts.

1 Corinthians 1:14 I am thankful that I did not baptise any of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so no-one can say that you were baptised into my name. 16 (Yes, I also baptised the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptised anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the gospel--not with words of human wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Q - Why did Paul do something God didn't send him to do?

Acts 6:2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.

Q - Why were the apostles unwilling to help feed the poor?

The issue of willing and wanting:

- A) A Christian should be willing to be used wherever needed.
- B) A Christian should want to be used where they will make the greatest contribution.

5) Make a Christ-centered, cost-counting decision to serve.

Luke 14:28 "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?"

The twin dangers of overcommitting – flaking out or burning out.

Getting Off to a Strong Start

1) Make Sure Your Commitment is Clear.

- A) How often do you serve? _____
- B) What time do you need to arrive? _____
- C) How long is your commitment for? _____
- D) Who do you talk to if you have a question? _____
- E) Do you have a...

Schedule?	Yes	No
Position Description?	Yes	No
Task List?	Yes	No

Getting Off to a Strong Start (continued)

2) Keep In Communication With Your Leader

My Leader is _____

Six times when you need to speak up:

- 1) When you need information/clarification.
- 2) When you have a good idea to improve the ministry.
- 3) When you need help.
- 4) When you need a break.
- 5) When you need to change your area of ministry.
- 6) When you can't make a scheduled commitment time.

What to do when you can't make it:

- 1) Find a replacement.
- 2) Notify your leader of who the replacement is.

3) Work Hard at Team Work

- 1) Pray for each other.
- 2) Be willing to help wherever needed.
- 3) Show up on time ready to serve.
- 4) Be an example, not an exception.
- 5) Be an encourager for the team.

Notes

For Your Information

Ministry Team Values

Three things we want everyone in ministry to experience...

- I'm being used by God to make difference
 - I'm equipped for my ministry
 - I'm part of a team that cares
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Ministry Team Serving Sessions

Purpose: The purpose of the serving sessions is to provide a twice yearly for renewing commitments, and appreciating team members.

Overview: The year is be divided into two serving sessions.
Session 1- January through June. Session 2 - July to December.



The Purpose of First Serve is to offer...

- 1) A clear and inviting starting point for those wanting to explore serving at New Life.
- 2) An entry level, short term, relationally positive serving experience at the church

First serve is usually a once a month serving experience for a duration of three months