

SMALL GROUP NEXT STEP IDEAS

Instructions: We all have next steps we need to take. This week we are featuring potential next steps you might take in a specific area/way in which you need to SERVE. We hope this list will help get some ideas started for you.

SERVE your family:

- Pack a lunch for your spouse for a week.
- Pick up your kids after practice without complaining.
- Do extra chores around the house without being asked.
- Plan and execute a family game or movie night.

SERVE your church:

- GO to the T.A.C.O. event after the service TODAY!
- Say YES when someone asks you to help fill a need in...Small Groups, Riverside Students, Riverside Kids, Guest Services, etc.
- Pick up trash on the campus grounds when you see it.
- Sign up to SERVE at the Great Pumpkin Party!

SERVE your community:

- Volunteer at your local food shelf.
- Serve on your local school board or city council.
- Serve as a fire fighter, EMT or police reservist.
- Donate socks and underwear for Riverside's Socktober!

We are excited to see what NEXT STEP you take to SERVE. Email us at **NextStep@myriversidechurch.com** and let us know the ways in which you've decided to SERVE.

Your **Small Group Guide** will help you process what it means to SERVE as well as what your next step might look like. Get your copy by the resource area near the worship center or go to www.myriversidechurch.com/smallgroups to see the digital copy.



DIVINE DIRECTION

MESSAGE NOTES & NEXT STEP IDEAS

SERVE
October 7, 2018



“SERVE”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Today's _____ end up shaping what we'll be tomorrow.

We're _____ for serving God (note Ephesians 2:10).

We are made to make a contribution and not just _____.

Note I Peter 4:10a

Many people today are searching for self-esteem, self-_____ and significance...God tells us these things come from _____ (note Matthew 10:39; Matthew 20:28).

The greatest _____ in the world is to be used by God.

Serving Jesus means being:

1. _____ (note Matthew 20:30-32)

So we walk in Jesus' footsteps, but we also need to understand the “_____” of Jesus (note Proverbs 3:28).

3 common barriers hinder us from being open to having God interrupt us:

- A. Self-_____ (note Philippians 2:4) - #1 enemy of serving = _____.
- B. P _____ (note Ecclesiastes 11:4)
- C. M _____ (note Luke 16:13)

2. _____ (note John 11:41-42)

Gratitude is the a _____ in which ministry and miracles happen (note I Timothy 1:12; Psalm 100:2).

We serve with _____ because of what Jesus has done for us (note II Timothy 1:9).

So what hinders us from serving God with gratitude?

- A. Comparing and C _____ (note Romans 14:4)
- B. Wrong _____ (note Matthew 6:1) - self p _____ and servanthood don't mix; but it's easy to mix them up.

3. _____ (note John 17:4)

To be faithful means to keep going, not quit, to not give up in the middle of an _____.

Serving like _____ means serving as long as we live (note I Corinthians 4:2).

What motivates us to stay faithful in serving God over the long haul?

- A. _____ for God's forgiveness (note I Timothy 1:12-16).
- B. Believe that God _____ faithfulness (note Matthew 19:27-29).
- C. Know that what we do really _____ (note I Corinthians 15:58) - there is no “I _____ s _____” in serving God!

When it comes to Divine direction:

- Our Savior didn't intend for us to sit back and just soak in some spiritual _____.
- What we do for Him matters and He _____ (note Hebrews 6:10).
- And God gives eternal _____ (note Matthew 25:21).
- The problem is too many people want to serve God...but only in an _____ capacity.
- Without apology I tell you the most important thing you'll ever do with your life is _____.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the Connect Card to let us know about your commitment, too!



“GO”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

Today's decisions end up shaping what we'll be tomorrow.
We're designed for serving God (note Ephesians 2:10).
We are made to make a contribution and not just consume.

Note 1 Peter 4:10a

Many people today are searching for self-esteem, self-worth, and significance...God tells us these things come from serving (note Matthew 10:39; Matthew 20:28).

The greatest thrill in the world is to be used by God.
Serving Jesus means being:

1. Available (note Matthew 20:30-32)

So we walk in Jesus' footsteps, but we also need to understand the "stops" of Jesus (note Proverbs 3:28).
3 common barriers hinder us from being open to having God interrupt us:

- A. Self-absorption (note Philippians 2:4) - #1 enemy of serving = busyness.
- B. Perfectionism (note Ecclesiastes 11:4)
- C. Materialism (note Luke 16:13)

2. Grateful (note John 11:41-42)

Gratitude is the atmosphere in which ministry and miracles happen (note 1 Timothy 1:12; Psalm 100:2).
We serve with gratitude because of what Jesus has done for us (note 2 Timothy 1:9).
So what hinders us from serving God with gratitude?

- A. Comparing and Criticizing (note Romans 14:4)
- B. Wrong Motives (note Matthew 6:1) – self-promotion and servanthood don't mix; but it's easy to mix them up.

3. Faithful (note John 17:4)

To be faithful means to keep going, not quit, to not give up in the middle of an assignment.
Serving like Jesus means serving as long as we live (note 1 Corinthians 4:2).
What motivates us to stay faithful in serving God over the long haul?

- A. Thankful for God's forgiveness (note 1 Timothy 1:12-16).
- B. Believe that God rewards faithfulness (note Matthew 19:27-29).
- C. Know that what we do really matters (note 1 Corinthians 15:58) – there is no "little stuff" in serving God!

When it comes to Divine direction:

- Our Savior didn't intend for us to sit back and just soak in some spiritual jacuzzi.
- What we do for Him matters and He notices (note Hebrews 6:10).
- And God gives eternal rewards (note Matthew 25:21).
- The problem is too many people want to serve God...but only in an advisory capacity.
- Without apology I tell you the most important thing you'll ever do with your life is serving God...

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the Connect Card to let us know about your commitment, too!