



THE COMPELLING COMMUNITY
LOVING THE BODY BY SERVING | APRIL 19, 2026

INTRODUCTION

Every ministry, no matter how small or hidden from the world, is meaningful when done for the glory of Christ. By far one of the greatest privileges of our lives is that we get to _____ the King of kings by serving the people He loves.

Since the church is an embassy of Christ's kingdom, we are not employees of a business. We are _____, soldiers even, of an otherworldly kingdom in hostile territory. We have been transferred out of Satan's domain into Christ's kingdom (Ephesians 6:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:3-5).

When we disciple a new Christian, we're not just being friendly. We're preparing them for _____ against the world, the flesh, and the devil (Ephesians 3:13-14).

Refusing to serve the church would be like a soldier pulling up a chair to sip Kool-Aid while he _____ his comrades fight the war.

FOUR MEANINGFUL WAYS TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH

1. _____ Regularly with Other Christians.

As Christians, the most fundamental act of service is to _____ with God's people for corporate worship on the Lord's Day (Hebrews 10:24-25).

We stir each other up to love and encourage each other by assembling. Your mere _____ at your church's corporate gathering on the Lord's Day serves your church.

In each other's presence, we give and receive encouragement by reminding one another we're not _____. We assemble with Christians from all different walks of life to testify to one another that Christ is king, God's Word is true, and His church will prevail until Christ comes again.

We need others to point us back to the Bible. We need others to _____ love and faithfulness to Christ, and to remind us that we're not following Jesus alone.

- Consider arriving _____ just to chat with people. Introduce yourself to strangers.
- Step out of your comfort zone and _____ visitors. It might be their first time in a Christian church.
- Consider serving on a regular basis in the preschool/children's ministry during worship.
- Sing loudly and cheerfully for the glory of God and for the good of the whole church. The apostle Paul tells us that we _____ and admonish one another in all wisdom when we sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16).

- Sit by different people, or invite someone sitting _____ to sit with you.
- Don't rush out the door after the gathering! Hang around and talk with people. Ask them about the sermon. What did they _____? How were they impacted? Ask them how you can pray for them during the week.

2. Practice _____.

Hospitality requires self-giving, which means it requires _____, energy, and loving people more than possessions.

The Bible regularly depicts hospitality as the kind of work that God's people should _____ (Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9; Titus 1:8).

Build time into your schedule (or it will get neglected) to invite church members and lost neighbors into your _____ — maybe for dinner, coffee, or just to spend time together.

We are motivated to show hospitality because of _____. Through His sacrifice, He has brought strangers into His household and seated us around His table (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Freely we've received, now freely we ought to give — of ourselves, our food, our stuff, our time.

3. Share the _____ Regularly

As Christians, we have the privilege of serving Christ and His church by making the gospel known. In doing so, we do our part in fulfilling the mission of the church (Matthew 28:18-20).

You don't need to be _____ in evangelism. Jesus has given the Great Commission to every Christian, and our participation is one way that we serve our Lord.

4. _____ other Christians.

Discipleship happens when we are willing to give and receive instruction from other believers. Part of the Great Commission is teaching other Christians what it looks like to _____ Christ. Discipling others is one of the most important ways you can serve your church.

As church members speak and apply sound doctrine to each other, the whole church becomes more like _____ (Ephesians 4:13-16).

- If you're an older woman, spend time with younger women. Use Titus 2:3-5 as a guide.
- Ask your pastor if there is a _____ believer who needs discipling. Take a few months (or a few years) and invest in that person. Read the Bible and great Christian books together.
- Are you a new believer? Ask a _____ Christian to disciple you.
- Find one other person in the church to meet with weekly or monthly for prayer and Bible study. Perhaps you'll be discipling each other since you'll both _____.
- If you lead a small group or teach a Sunday School class to children or adults, identify someone to replace you. Show them how you prepare to teach and give them _____ on how to teach others.
- _____ can't disciple everyone individually. They need your participation in the work of the ministry (Ephesians 4:11-12).