

Showing Gratitude
Through Service.



Duty and Service

- Being a worker in the household of faith is more than duty, it is a service.
- Duty is what you are mandated to do, but service is what you are made or created to do – Rev 4:11KJV.
- As believers, we recognize His Lordship in fellowship but show gratitude through service.

Who are the workers in the church?

Heb 6:10 , 1Chron 29:14

- Men and women who make a conscious decision in their heart to partner with Jesus to serve others.
- Individuals who through their service to God freely and willingly offer their time, talents, and skills to support the church.
- Those who understand true ownership – Coll 1:16-17.
- The attitude of humility is a necessary foundation for service.

Who are the workers?

- Jesus the master servant, the chief cornerstone, the head of His church workforce - John 13:12-14.
- For anything to work in life there must be someone behind it – a worker.
- We are privileged to have these men and women serving Christ among us.
- Encouragement to the workers:
Gal 6:9, Let us not become weary...., Luke 17:9-10.

A Solemn Request

- A call to give: Am not raising offering or donation
- My request is a gift of your heart that will transcend into a release of what is in your hands. **Why?**
- Statistics shows that 42% of churchgoers are involved in any responsibility at their church.
- New year giving records highlighted less than 20% of church members are faithful in giving.
- The church needs more workers and helpers, only few hands work in multiple departments to keep the church running.

Why is this call important? John 6: 5-13.

- No church of Jesus Christ is poor, if the foundation is Jesus.
- If any church lack, it is not because Jesus cannot meet the needs; check the leadership and the members. - Matt 16:18
- Jesus has made us the conduit of those resources that the church needs to be an epitome of His abundance.
- Poverty in the church is not from Jesus; abundance and success grows with revelation and understanding- Hosea 4:6



Exposition John 6: 5-13

- VS 6: He already knew what He planned to do.
- VS 7: Philips' response mirrored what the best of us would say based on what we can see and the reality confronting us, our ministry, or the church.
- **VS 9** : There was a lad in the congregation who carried the resources needed to meet the needs but unknown.
- Jesus had made the provision for the multitude through the lad. Everything the church needs has been supplied by the owner of the church.

Everyone has a gift and ability.

- We are all custodians of His manifold blessings to support one another and our common goal as a body of believers.
- It may be your talent, gifts, time, or resources
- We are conduits of heaven's resources, what is a lunch to the lad is a seed in the hands of Jesus. Yes, His name was on it, but the lad understands the concept of conduit and conductor.
- He was a mere custodian of heaven's resources.
- We must be wise to release them to the rightful owner
... 1Chron 29:11-14.

Why release it?

- Kept in your hand, it's only enough for you. Placed in His hands, He can bless it and use it far beyond what one can imagine.
- The more we keep our gift to ourselves, the less it benefits us and the church as a community.
- What can you release, and what can you do to help the church?

The cost of progression is self-denial.

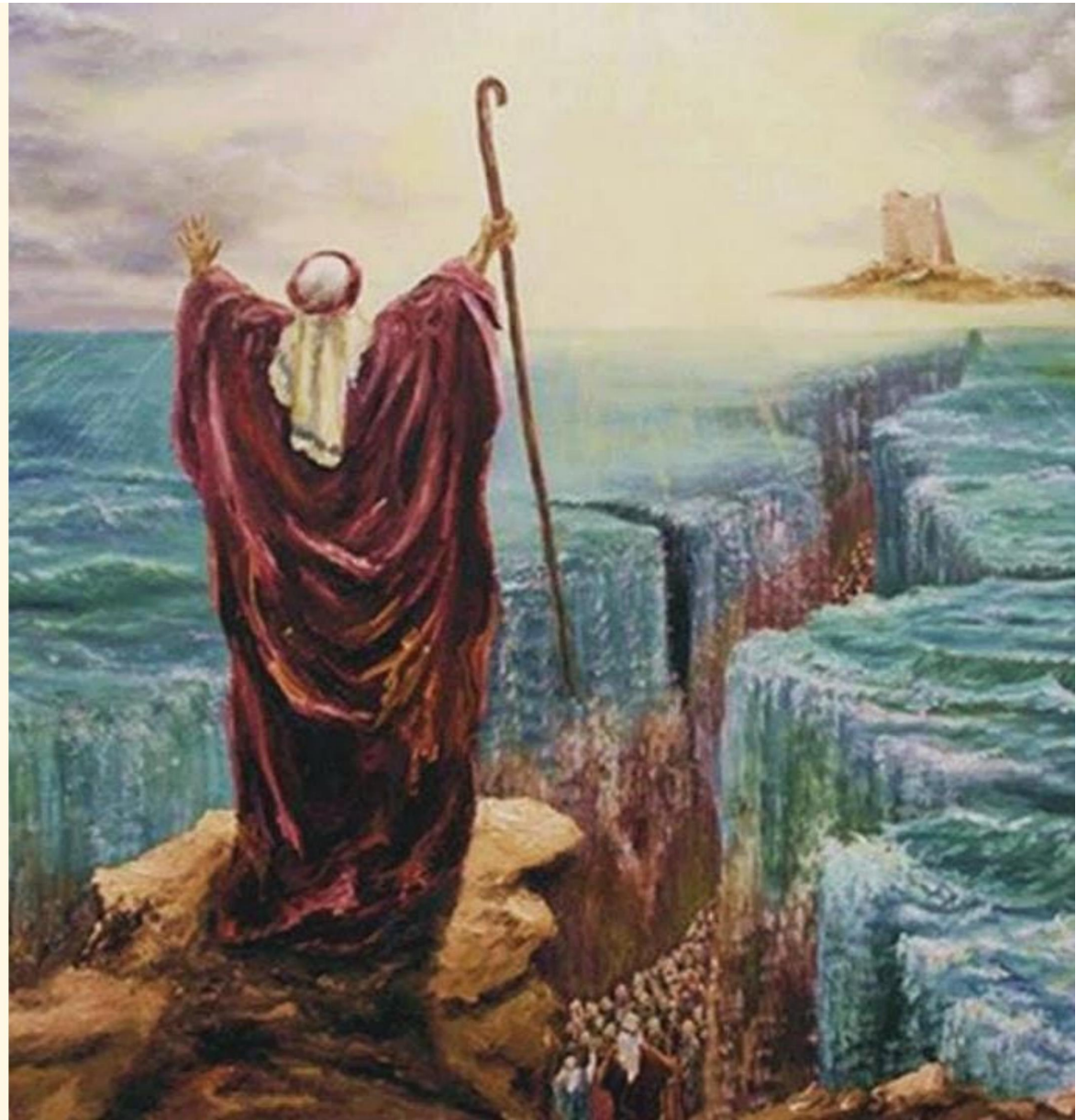
- Manifesting God's glory in Decatur will requires the sacrifice of our gifts.
- Many departments of the church need manpower; we need your help.
- Your blessings are in where you are planted – Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish... Ps 92:13
- Exo 33:11 “But the young man Joshua the son of Nun would remain..”

Why should I release my gift?

- It is yours I get it; but ... Giving precedes getting, you must give before you get – John 12:24.
- Until you jump, you will never develop wings.
- God multiply whatever is released into His hands.
- Whatever you place in Jesus' hands is not gone, it is an investment into your future with returns.

Moses passed the test of release ...Exodus 4:2

- Moses' rod was ordinary until:
 - God drew his attention to it
 - He was asked to release it, and he did
 - The rod never remained the same because of simple obedience
 - God used the rod of Moses to perform wonders, deliver a nation, defeated pharaoh, and wrought signs and miracles.



Conclusion: Why must you consider using your gifts to help the body?

- Time is attached to whatever you can do – Mark 10:45
- What you have is a talent meant for use till He come-Lk 19:13
- We are here to accomplish definite purpose – Acts 13:36
- Our gifts and talents must build His body – 1Pet 4:10-11.
- The church will grow in abundance when we all rise to work within our capacity.
- Release what you have. Come as you are to the fountain of life.