

Cleaning House

DECLUTTER YOUR SOUL

Craig Smith • May 9, 2021 • Engage

This may seem like a simple question but it is worth asking, why do you attend church? See if your answer corresponded to this week's sermon.

The ministry mission defined...

He appointed twelve – designating them apostles – that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons. (Mark 3:14-15)

All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. (Col. 1:6)

Does the church family feel like you are a part of a team? Why or why not?

The ministry mission engaged...

It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service... (Eph. 4:11-12a)

Reading the above verse, do you feel that you are prepared for the works of service? Why or why not?

What do you lack in order to have the confidence to feel prepared?

Inside the church...

- **When you serve, we grow in unity** – "...so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith..." (Eph. 4:12b-13a)
- **When you serve, we grow in maturity** – "...and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching... Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ." (Eph. 4:13b-15)
- **When you serve, we grow in love** – "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." (Eph. 4:16)

Which of the three bullets above do you most need developed? Have you ever considered serving in church ministry as a solution?

Outside the church...

- **Start at home: get some feet under your table** – "For two whole years Paul stayed in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 28:30-31)
- **Join a cause: bridge a community need to God's love** – "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people..." (Gal. 6:10)
- **Support a friend: partner with a TVC missionary** – "Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers... You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. It was for the sake of the Name that they went out." (3 John 5a, 6b-7)
- **Take a trip: go with us in bringing the gospel to the nations** – "Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.'" (John 20:21)

What of the four bullets above most intrigues you? How might you lean in further to make that a reality?

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1:17)