

Bible Study Series Part 6

October 18, 2023

New Hope Christian Community Church

Based on Dr. Charles F. Stanley's "Developing a Servant's Heart"

WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?



People offer many excuses for not serving others for God. Some say that don't have time, while others say they have other priorities. However, there are two basic reasons at the root of why people don't serve:

The first reason is *pride*. Too often, people do not want to humble themselves to serve. This selfishness is a form of pride - they don't want to be inconvenienced or distracted from what they want to do and when they want to do it.

1 Corinthians 13:4 says, "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy, love does not parade itself, is not puffed up."

The second reason is *fear of failure*. Many people feel they don't have anything to give to others or that others will not be open to receiving what they can offer.

2 Timothy 1:7 says, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."



Those who constantly refuse to engage in service don't understand:



The Heart of God 1 John 4:7



Why We Are Alive Matthew 5:16



God's Purpose for the World

Matthew 6:9-10

Created For Service

Service is a part of God's reason for creating us. "We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

Our service is an outgrowth of the talents and abilities God has placed in our lives.

God has allowed us to have certain experiences and relationships to bring to any ministry and service.

God's plan that you use what you have been given to the fullest of your abilities.

God's purpose is not to increase you and to prosper you mentally, physically, emotionally, materially and above all, spiritually.

Life Application Questions

- How does selfishness get in the way of serving others?
- How does fear of failure get in the way of serving others?
- How does serving help you understand God's heart?
- How does it help you know your purpose.
- How can serving others bring glory to God.
- What talents and skills has God given you?
- How has serving others given you increase?
- How can I use my own experiences to serve others?