

Say Yes To Serving  
Matthew 25:31-40

"I'm trying to live a life that matters." - Reece Witherspoon

How do we live a life that matters?

What makes your life matter?

What makes your life count?

We want to know that what we're doing matters to God and we're doing what God wants.

*"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:31-40*

1. When I Say Yes To Serving, I'm Saying Yes To Jesus.

*"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40*

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." Matthew 25:35-36*

- When we add value to other people, we add value to God.

*"Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" Matthew 25:37-39*

- Jesus values people.
- We should value people.

If you don't see Jesus when you see people, then you don't see the big picture clearly.

The assumption is that they would have helped if they saw Jesus, but they did not see Jesus so they missed it.

They did more than miss the opportunity, they missed Jesus.

If I see a person and I don't see Jesus, then I missed the big picture.

Even the people who did the acts didn't know it was Jesus.

We need to see Jesus in them and serve Jesus through them.

The happiest people in the world are those who give their life serving God.

- Everyone has the opportunity to add value to people.
- When we add value to others, there is no insignificant act.

The things seemed so small, but Jesus said they were big.

The people who did these things would have done more if they saw Jesus.

Those who did not see Jesus said if they had seen Him, they would have done something.

When we see Jesus, it changes us and changes them.

The person who is overlooked and ignored doesn't see Jesus either.

They see Jesus through your acts.

Be intentional to increase your acts of service.

Everything worthwhile is uphill, there is nothing worthwhile that is downhill.

Nothing's automatic or easy or by chance.

- Deliberately think about life.
- Be consistent on a daily basis.
- Willfully make a choice.

Most people don't lead their life, they just accept their life.

There is a difference between success and significance.

Success is about me.

Significance is about others.

The challenge is to make yourself think of others first.

At the end of the story, he tells us the negative side of not serving.

*“Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.”* Matthew 25:45

2. When I Say Yes To Serving, I Add Value To People.

*“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”* Matthew 25:35-36

You are the most like Jesus when you value people.

Jesus loved people.

Jesus values everybody.

Most of us have a person that's hard to value.

Jesus values the overlooked and the ignored.

Only religious people were messed up by the people Jesus valued.

When are we going to stop correcting people and start connecting people?

Everyone needs a friend, so I've decided to be their friend.

Everyone has good in their life, and I've gone after the good.

Everyone wants to feel valued, so I've decided to add value.

Everyone can help me, so I've decided to receive it.

Everyone wants to better their life, and I will help them better their life.

Everyone has something to give, so I give them an opportunity to share.

- Every Day I Have To Think Of Ways To Add Value To People.

Think ahead. Who will I meet, and what will I do today?

Open doors for people.

Smile and tell them to have a good day.

Compliment and encourage.

- Every Day I Will Look For Ways To Add Value To People.

When you become intentional, you will see ways to add value to people.

If not, you'll see people and never see ways to add value.

- Every Day I Must Do Things That Add Value To People.

Inventory your day and ask yourself, "Who did I add value to and how did I add value to them?"

Good intentions are no good unless they become good actions.

- Every Day I Will Encourage Others To Add Value To People.

**3.** When I Say Yes To Serving, I Realize My Purpose.

- You Are Gifted To Serve.

*"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."* 1 Peter 4:10

*"You are part of the body of Christ and now you belong to Him in order that we might be useful in the service of God."* Romans 7:4

*"Together, we are his house...carefully joined together in Him."* Ephesians 2:22

*“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.”* Romans 12:6-8

- We Are Called To Serve

*“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you...”* Jeremiah 1:5

*“You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.”* Psalm 139:16

*“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”* Ephesians 2:10

*“It is God who has called us and chose us for His holy work.”* 2 Timothy 1:9

The words “holy work” mean ministry.

Every one of us has been called to a “holy work” – a ministry.

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord and not for men. It is the Lord you are serving.”* Colossians 3:23-24

#### 4. When I Say Yes To Serving, It Will Be Rewarded By God Personally.

Our beliefs determine where we’ll spend eternity; our behavior determines how we’ll spend eternity.

*“Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.”* Matthew 25:34

*“Well done, good and faithful servants. You’ve been faithful in a few things. I’ll put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness.”* Matthew 25:21

*“Keep busy in your work for the Lord, since you know that nothing you do in the Lord’s service is ever without value.”* 1 Corinthians 15:58

*“For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.”* Matthew 16:27

*“Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.”* Luke 6:23

*“And you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”* Luke 14:14

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”* Colossians 3:23-24

*“Because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free.”*  
Ephesians

6:8

*“Keep busy in your work for the Lord, since you know that nothing you do in the Lord’s service is ever without value.”* 1 Corinthians 15:58

YOUR CHURCH FAMILY NEEDS YOU TO SERVE.

The number one challenge is to be available to serve.

We don’t have to be perfect to render service to people for God.

God intended for us to accomplish some things together.

There are four people I meet in church every week.

Mr. Usta

Mr. Oughta

Mr. Gonna

Mr. Tuit

- Be A Participator, Not A Spectator.
- Choose Commitment over Convenience.