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ARTICLE
WHY DO WE SERVE?

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PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

HAVEN MINISTRY





## WHY DO WE SERVE?

In today's day and age, the word service is often understood in the context of a performed paid service, whether for a plumber's plumbing or the workshop mechanic's repairs. Meanwhile, in the

Christian circle, serving would mean involvement in a certain ministry or the mission field. Statistically, about three in ten adult Christians have a rather high level of congregational involvement, and about 50%







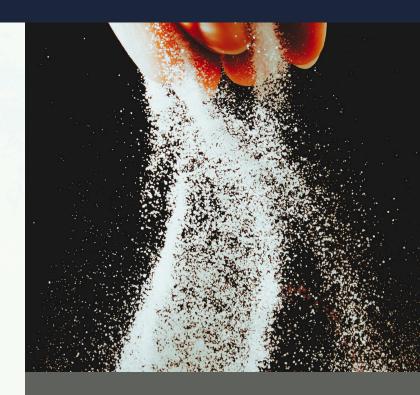


would have a moderate level of congregational involvement. As Christians, do we ponder why we serve? What would you say if someone asked you why you do what you do in church/ministry?

"EVEN AS THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY." Matthew 20:28 ESV

Matthew tells us that our Christian service is ultimately based upon the foundation of Christ Jesus. Serving is what Christ commands. Christ is the one who empowers our service and also the reason we serve, or else it becomes a personal effort (and dread perhaps). In our recent Lifegroup study, I learnt that those who serve out of fear of man or who try to earn God's approval are putting themselves under a curse. (Gal 3:10) Both are impossible tasks that destruction rather than salvation. The only real path (the apostle) Paul sees is serving Christ in gratitude for what he's done.

Secondly, we as Christians are agents of God in daily life.



"YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH. BUT IF THE SALT LOSES ITS SALTINESS, HOW CAN IT BE MADE SALTY AGAIN? IT IS NO LONGER GOOD FOR ANYTHING, **EXCEPT TO BE THROWN OUT AND** TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT. YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A TOWN BUILT ON A HILL CANNOT BE HIDDEN. NEITHER DO PEOPLE LIGHT A LAMP AND PUT IT UNDER A BOWL. INSTEAD, THEY PUT IT ON ITS STAND, AND IT GIVES LIGHT TO EVERYONE IN THE HOUSE. IN THE SAME WAY, LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE OTHERS, THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD DEEDS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER IN HEAVEN." Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

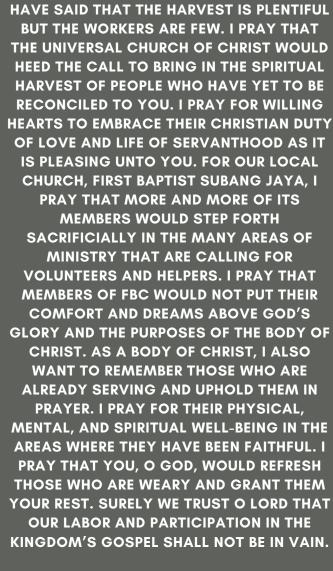
As Christians, we represent God's kingdom, and our obedience in our contributes serving the to advancement of His kingdom. May it be actively in proclaiming the gospel of Christ or caring for others in congregational love. "Why Christians always like that one/ do such things?" That is a phrase that I suspect a lot of us have heard over the years in our journey of faith. The actions we do and things we say convey a message to the world, and it paints a picture not just about each individual self, but also collectively for Christendom. Precisely because we God's agents, we consider carefully the decisions we make, the way we treat people, the views we stand for, and the practices we carry out in life, for it reflects our values as Christians.

Lastly, realize that we are sent by God for our neighbors.

"BUT IF ANYONE HAS THE WORLD'S GOODS AND SEES HIS BROTHER IN NEED, YET CLOSES HIS HEART AGAINST HIM, HOW DOES GOD'S LOVE ABIDE IN HIM?"

1 John 3:17 ESV

In our serving, we may very well be the instrument of faith to the needy. The care we show for believers and not-yet believers alike, as God's fellow creation, is one way of God caring for them through us. It could be buying a hungry person a hot meal, shouldering some ministry tasks with a fellow believer, or still helping out in little ways we can with the life group, we are serving that person(s) in need and ultimately God. I think we can all agree that true Christian work (in church/ministry/ mission) shouldn't be shouldered by just the small elite few. Brethren, let's be faithful, be real and authentic in serving the Master.



OUR HEAVENLY FATHER ALMIGHTY, YOU



## PRAYER FOR HAVEN MINISTRY

- Pray for God to raise up faithful male volunteers who build relationships with the "doormen" through prayer, shared meals, and consistent investment in their lives.
- Pray for field workers to rest fully in God's will, surrendering personal agendas. May they be granted discernment—spiritual sight, sound, and sensitivity. Train their hearts in holy expectancy as they partner with God to reach those trapped in the sex trade.
- Pray for God to orchestrate connections within the Bangladeshi, Vietnamese, and Thai faith communities. May these believers come alongside HAVEN to provide systematic, creative follow-up (e.g., through WhatsApp or other platforms).
- Pray for God to reveal His blueprint for HAVEN's ministry—especially in awareness campaigns and intervention programs within churches.