

God’s not enabling us by the power of the Holy Spirit to sit around on the couch and do nothing! We are enabled to speak His Word boldly and we are enabled by His Spirit, graced and gifted by His Spirit, to serve God and serve others.

As in any great adventure, we can do more if we work together. Remember our 2019 theme “We Greater Than I”. We work together and we accomplish more when we are on a TEAM. “Together Everyone Achieves More”.

Therefore, today is Super Sunday and Ministry Team Sign Up Day!

But as you are considering which team or teams you will serve on, let’s talk about why we serve.

### Why Serve On A Believers Ministry Team?

*“People don’t resent being asked for a great commitment if there is a great purpose behind it.”*

#### 1. We are created for good works.

We are saved by grace and not by our own works of righteous good deeds. Most people are familiar with this verse: **Ephesians 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith —and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.**

But we must read on and ask ourselves, “After we are saved by grace what are we created to do?”

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

You have a created purpose! Our goal is to help you walk in your created purpose.

#### 2. Serving others is a key to the blessed and abundant life.

We believe that Jesus has come to give you abundant life! Jesus said, **“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10 (NKJ)**

Jesus gave us a hint on how to fully experience this abundant life right after He washed the disciple’s feet in the gospel of John 13. After Jesus had served them,

He said, **“Now that you know these things... John 13:17b ” Know what things?**

**John 13:12-17 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. 13 “You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.**

**15 I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. 16 Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him.**

**John 3:17 Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.**

**Do what things?** Acts of service, acts of kindness to others. Laying your life down to serve others. If you serve others, you will be blessed and fully experience His Abundant Life!

### 3. Serving other's is following the example of Jesus.

**Matthew 20:28 ... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

Jesus spoke these words after observing that His disciples kept jockeying for power and position over one another. He wanted them to know that to be considered great in the Kingdom of God, they would need to learn to serve one another.

**Matthew 20:25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them.** (Jesus is saying, "Hey guys... that's the way of the world. Not my way. The Gentiles of the world do it that way but...")

**Matthew 20:26 Not so with you.**

I love that phrase, "not so with you", because it seems to encapsulate what true kingdom living is all about. You don't do things like everyone else does them.

- You don't get to the top the way everyone else in the worldly system gets to the top.
- You don't ever try to advance yourself at the expense of others.
- You will actually learn to prefer others above yourself!

#### **The Secret to True Greatness**

**Matthew 20:26-28 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave-- 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."**

Jesus is saying, "Don't you get it guys? I have been a servant to you and the crowds we serve. As a matter of fact, you and I have to serve to the point that we look and act like slaves."

**Servant Jesus** As Jesus walked the earth, he referred to himself as a servant and his followers continued to refer to him that way.

**Acts 3:13 The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. (NIV)**

**Acts 3:26 When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways. (NIV)**

**Acts 4:27 Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. (NIV)**

As we serve others, we will begin to overcome our natural self-centeredness and become more like Jesus. **Philippians 2:3-5 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:**

### 4. The greatest honor and title to call yourself in the early church was a servant.

**Acts 4:29 Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. (NIV)**

**Acts 16:17 This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." (NIV)**

**Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God-- (NIV)**

**Ephesians 3:7 I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. (NIV)**

**5. Helping you find your place in ministry and serving is our Biblical mandate.**

**Ephesians 4:11-12 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12a to equip his people for works of service (ministry)...**

As I serve and minister to others, it is also a part of my job and responsibility to teach and equip you to do the works of ministry as well.

Why? **Ephesians 4:12b**

- A. **...so that the body of Christ may be built up**
- B. **13 until we all reach unity in the faith**
- C. **and in the knowledge of the Son of God**
- D. **and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.**
- E. So that we will all grow up strong and mature. **Ephesians 4:-14-15 Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.**
- F. So each one of us can do our part. **Ephesians 4:-16 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.**

**6. Serving in Ministry is part of your Membership Covenant.**

The Believers Church Membership Covenant

**3. Serve in ministry, discover your gifts and talents, be equipped, and develop a servant's heart.** 1 Peter 4:10, Eph. 4:11-12, Phil. 2:3-7

Help Believers Church fulfill our Goals:

- **To help people discover their divine purpose and destiny.**

**7. Ministry is included in our core values, We Choose Statements.**

WE CHOOSE TO BE SPIRITUAL CONTRIBUTORS NOT CONSUMERS

- The church does not exist for us.
- We are the church, and we exist for the world.

WE CHOOSE TO BE INWARD AND OUTWARD FOCUSED

- We don't just WANT to reach people for Jesus... we MUST reach people for Jesus.
- We choose to do anything short of sin to reach people who don't know Jesus.
- We choose to reach people no one is reaching, so we'll do things no one is doing.

**8. Ministry is one of the Five Purposes of Believers Church.**

**Ministry - Love Your Neighbor as Yourself Matthew 22:39 "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Love God, Love others. Serve God, serve others.**

**9. Serving utilizes the spiritual gifts God has given us.**

Fulfill your destiny, don't waste your gifts and talents that God has so generously graced you with!  
Don't go to your grave with your song still in you!

**Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10**

Use "whatever gift" you have been given to serve others on a Ministry Team today!

**10. Serving allows you to share in Jesus' joy and celebration!**

**Matthew 25:23 'His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.**

**Come and share your master's happiness!' (NIV)**

**(NKJ) Enter into the joy of your lord.' // (NLT) Let's celebrate together!'**

**Next Bold Step: Today I will sign up and serve on a Ministry Team.**