

THIS IS LOVE

How Serving Becomes Natural

JULY 16, 2023

Over 90% of Americans want to volunteer, but only 1 in 4 actually do. Why is that? And how do we make sure we're people who give of ourselves generously?

MESSAGE NOTES AND HIGHLIGHTS

- For we brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it. | Timothy 6:7
- No matter how much we accumulate over the course of our lives, we can't take it with us.
- We should go all in for the things that have eternal impact.
- Over 90% of Americans want to volunteer but only 1 in 4 actually do. | Stanford Center on Longevity
- Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. | Philippians 2:3-4
- If you've put your faith in Jesus, you're united with Christ, even if you don't realize all the incredible things that provides for you.
- Are you experiencing hope and encouragement from your relationship with Jesus?
- Do you find your identity and comfort in the love of God?
- Do you pursue and see the fruit of the Spirit growing in our lives?
- Do you experience God as a loving father who calls you to be his child?
- We love because he (God) first loved us. | 1 John 4:19
- The power and motivation of the Christian life is a response to what God has done for us.
- For Christians, it's not just "Do what you're supposed to do," it's "Give what's been given to you."
- The goal of the Christian life is to daily pursue knowing Jesus better and to surrender to his work in us.
- First challenge: Choose a community outreach project from our list at forphilly.com.
- Second challenge: Spend time growing close to God, experience his love, and give to others as God has given to you.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the most meaningful volunteer/serving experiences you've had?
2. When it comes to volunteering our time, there's usually a disconnect between how much we say we want to volunteer versus how much we actually do. What are your challenges and obstacles to volunteering and serving the community?
3. Consider these four questions. Which of these is the most challenging for you right now? Which is the most encouraging?
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