

Service

Outline - Mike Baird

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Who should serve?

- Jesus served
 - Luke 22:27

"For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth"
- All should serve independent of our status or state:
 - "All of us must be willing to serve, no matter what our income, age, condition of health, or social position. Some people believe that only the poor and lowly should serve. Other people think service should only be given by the rich. But Jesus taught otherwise" ("Gospel Principles, 175)
 - Matt 20:26-27

"But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;
And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant "

How can we serve?

- Many ways to serve
 - Economically
 - Socially
 - Physically
 - Spiritually
 - Welfare
 - Missionary
- Service may be small or large

Why we should serve others?

- It is through service to others that God's work is done
 - Spencer W Kimball:
"God does notice us, and he watches over us. But it is usually through another person that he meets our needs. Therefore, it is vital that we serve each other in the kingdom." ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)
- Serve others to save ourselves
 - Thomas S Monson:
"The Savior taught His disciples, "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it."
I believe the Savior is telling us that unless we lose ourselves in service to others, there is little purpose to our own lives. Those who live only for themselves eventually shrivel up and figuratively lose their lives, while those who lose themselves in service to others grow and flourish—and in effect save their lives." ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)
- We are dependent upon others throughout our life
 - infants
 - illness
 - crisis
- Serve others you are in service of God
 - Mosiah 2:17-18
"when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God"
- Must serve others to live with God
 - Matt 25:32-46
"... inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me...
Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed"

Blessings we receive through service

- Increased ability to love
- Happiness
 - Joseph F Smith
"There is no happiness without service" (Gospel Doctrine, pg 300)
 - David O McKay
"Man's greatest happiness comes from losing himself for the good of others." (Conference Report, Oct. 1963, 8)

- Less selfish
 - William Bradford
 "The only way under the heavens whereby a person can be sanctified is in selfless service.
 Where the proper focus on gospel-centered, selfless service is not developed, selfishness takes over." ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)
- Spiritual growth
 - Spencer W Kimball:
 "One of the most vital things we can do is to express our testimonies through service, which will, in turn, produce spiritual growth, greater commitment, and a greater capacity to keep the commandments" ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)
- More substance to our souls
 - Spencer W Kimball:
 "... the more we serve our fellowmen in appropriate ways, the more substance there is to our souls. We become more significant individuals as we serve others" ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)
- Focus on others our problems seem to be less serious
 - Spencer W Kimball:
 "When we are engaged in the service of our fellowmen, not only do our deeds assist them, but we put our own problems in a fresher perspective. When we concern ourselves more with others, there is less time to be concerned with ourselves. In the midst of the miracle of serving, there is the promise of Jesus, that by losing ourselves, we find ourselves." ("Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2)

Opportunities to serve

- Sometimes we only serve those we enjoy being around
 - Christ taught us to love and serve everyone
- Share talents
- Church opportunities
- Serve our Families
 - Mosiah 4:14-15
 "ye will not suffer your children that they go hungry, or naked..."

Christ's example of service

- He did many humble acts of service even though he is our God and Savior
 - Did service to many that others shunned

- Service to his Disciples
 - John 13:4-10
"... After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet"
- Gave his life
 - Matt 20:28
"Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many."
- When we willing serve others in the spirit of love, we become more like Christ

Personal Welfare Service

- See [Welfare – Personal Service](#)

References

Spencer W Kimball "Small Acts of Service," Ensign, Dec. 1974, 2
 Dallin H. Oaks, "Why Do We Serve?" Ensign, Nov. 1984, 12
 William R. Bradford, "Selfless Service," Ensign, Nov. 1987, 75