

Serving in God's church.

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11.

Serving is a key part of the work of the church and if we believe the church is the hope of the world it will affect what we do and how we serve. God calls us to be part of his church and therefore his hope for this world.

We had a great prophetic word on Sunday morning that God is recruiting people to serve.

3 points made about serving:

1. Be biblically persuaded.

Need to be convinced that this is something God wants us to do. 1 Peter 4: 7-11 encourages us to serve with the strength God provides so in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. The Bible is full of encouragement for believers to serve. Deuteronomy 10:12, Romans 12: Colossian 3:23, John 12:26.

2. Look at Jesus' example.

Jesus is the ultimate example of a servant. He is the servant king. He is also the one we ultimately serve because he founded the church and is the head of the church. See Colossian 1:18. He is our motivation and our hope. He served the whole world by going to the cross and dying for our sins. In serving, Jesus:

- Was willing
- Motivated by love
- Had purpose and vision
- Served with passion.

3. Practical application. See the vision of the Crown and get on board. We are building towards a large relevant church together changing lives and making Jesus known. What opportunities are there? How can we serve in the church? We would love to have everyone serve in one area on a Sunday.

Questions for practical application.

1. Was there anything from the Sunday's preach that you did not understand or did not make sense?
2. Do you believe that the church is the hope of the world? If so, what does this mean to you?
3. We would love everyone to serve to serve in one area on a Sunday morning. Is everyone in your cell able to do this?
4. Are there reasons why people do not serve?
5. Pray that Jesus will stir more people to serve in the church.
6. Pray for the areas in which you as a group serve.
7. Are there people you know who would be great to serve in the following areas: Children's work on Sunday morning, PA, Set up, song pro, international students? Can you connect them to leaders in these areas?