

**Settling Down in Love** 

Galatians 6:10

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and <u>especially to those</u> who are of the household of faith.".



# Serving the church is meant to be glorious, because the church is glorious



# How is the church glorious?

**Ephesians 1:1b** 

"To the saints who are in Ephesus..."



Ephesians 1:1b

"To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus"

Ephesians 1:3

"...who has <u>blessed us in Christ</u> with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places"



Ephesians 1:22b-23a

"...gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body..."



#### How is the church glorious?

- 1. The church is the body of Christ
- 2. The church is described gloriously



**Ephesians 1:23** 

"[the church] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all."

**Ephesians 2:21** 

"in [Christ Jesus] the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord."

**Ephesians 2:22** 

"In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God..."



#### How is the church glorious?

- 1. The church is the body of Christ
- 2. The church is described gloriously
- 3. The church is God-glorifying



**Ephesians 3:10** 

"so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places."

**Ephesians 3:21** 

"to [God the Father] be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."



#### How is the church glorious?

- 1. The church is the body of Christ
- 2. The church is described gloriously
- 3. The church is God-glorifying
- 4. The church is inextricably united with Christ



#### **Ephesians 4:15-16**

"...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."

#### John 15:5

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

# Serving the church is meant to be glorious, because the church is glorious Because Christ is glorious!



# How are we to Serve in the Church we Love?

[7 aspects]



**Ephesians 4:30a** 

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God..."



# How are we to Serve in the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God





"Music could point to different people or things, depending on what it's trying to glorify. Music could even be used to serve ourselves. But I think with "musical worship", it's different. It calls us to be humble and serve each other and point to only one name. There's no "this song could mean this or that". I find importance and joy in that coming together."

**Ephesians 4:30b** 

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed..."



Ephesians 4:30b

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed..."

#### **Ephesians 1:13**

"...when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit"



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

2. With our Assurance set on Peace

1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God



"It is a joy to serve my Saviour in this way, and I love the energy and ambition in young adults! It is a joyous vision that I want to see these passions turn away from the pursuit of self to the pursuit of the glory of Christ. It's not always a daily reality, but it's certainly worth praying for and working towards. Christ's church must be made beautiful for His glory!"



**Ephesians 4:30** 

"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

#### 3. With our Hope set on Eternity

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace



**Ephesians 4:31** 

"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice."



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

#### 4. With our Spirit set on Liberty

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace
- 3. With our Hope set on Eternity



"On one hand, I think being a Deacon is not easy, because you're entering into people's pain alongside them & helping them to carry their burdens. But to be able to offer them the support, love, prayers & encouragement that they need, that's truly special, rewarding & humbling. In a way, I hope everyone can experience both the blessings & the burdens of ministry. Because I think that's what the Church is for."

"I have answered God's call."



#### Galatians 6:2

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

**Romans 12:15** 

"Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep."



**Ephesians 4:32** 

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, <u>as God in Christ forgave you."</u>



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

#### 5. With our Standard set on Christ

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace
- 3. With our Hope set on Eternity
- 4. With our Spirit set on Liberty



"I am glad to be serving in missions because it is a privilege to be the voice for those who have great need for the gospel. However my motivation to serve is Jesus, who came to serve and not to be served."



**Ephesians 5:1** 

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children."



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

#### 6. With our Identity set on Sonship

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace
- 3. With our Hope set on Eternity
- 4. With our Spirit set on Liberty
- 5. With our Standard set on Christ



"I'm glad to be serving in RAYs because I generally enjoy befriending the youths. It's precious to me to be able to journey along with them through their awkward no-longer-a-kid-not-yet-a-grown-adult phase. It is a joy to have these friendships in my life, and a privilege to witness and watch them grow up, grow well, mature and flourish into the young men and women that God intends them to be."



**Ephesians 5:2** 

"And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

#### 7. With our Threshold set on The Cross

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace
- 3. With our Hope set on Eternity
- 4. With our Spirit set on Liberty
- 5. With our Standard set on Christ
- 6. With our Identity set on Sonship



"I serve God with gladness because of what Christ has done on the cross. His love and grace abound and this makes me glad to serve the cell ministry. As Paul proclaimed Galatians 2:20 so do I:

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."



# How are we to Serve the Church we Love? [7 aspects]

- 1. With our Motivation set on Pleasing God
- 2. With our Assurance set on Peace
- 3. With our Hope set on Eternity
- 4. With our Spirit set on Liberty
- 5. With our Standard set on Christ
- 6. With our Identity set on Sonship
- 7. With our Threshold set on The Cross



Serving the church is meant to be glorious, because the church is glorious, Because Christ is glorious!



**Ephesians 2:8-9** 

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."



**Ephesians 2:10** 

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."



#### **Ephesians 4:4-6**

"There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all."

