

Living Beyond Myself Keith Taylor June 1/2, 2019

God put you on this earth for numerous reasons. One of those reasons is that you're shaped to serve God. But God wants you to serve Him in a certain way. He wants you to serve Him like Jesus did, with the attitude of Christ.

Why do we serve Jesus and reach out to others?

1. It is a heartfelt response for all that God has done.

I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him. Romans 12:1 (NLT)

But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus... Acts 20:24 (NLT)

2. It is a genuine way to be like Jesus.

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. Romans 12:2 (NLT)

The whole idea of living your life for God's purposes is a huge theme in the Bible:

- a) Created for it- Ephesians 2:10
- b) Called to it 1 Peter 2:9-10
- c) Gifted for it Romans 12:4-5
- d) Authorized in it -Matthew 28:18-20
- e) Commanded to do it- Matthew 28:18-20
- f) Equipped for it- Ephesians 4:11-12
- g) Needed 1 Corinthians 12:27
- h) Accountable Colossians 3:23-24
- i) Rewarded Galatians 6:9

Now it is required that those who receive a trust must prove faithful. 1 Corinthians 4:2 (NIV)

God never blesses or helps you solely for your own benefit.

3. It is an expression of God's work in my life.

God has given each of you a gift from His great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)

So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time. Galatians 6:9 (NLT)