

Sermon Reflection Guide: "Overcoming Obstacles to Serving"

Theme: Improving Your Serve

Introduction:

- As we continue our sermon series, "Improve Your Serve," let's reflect on the obstacles that hinder our willingness to serve within the church community.
- Remember, serving is not just about what we do but also about the condition of our hearts and the intentionality of our actions.

Reflection Questions:

1. What emotions arise when you think about serving within the church community? Are there any specific obstacles or challenges that come to mind?
2. Consider the statement, "The best way to grow is to serve." How has serving impacted your personal growth and spiritual journey in the past?
3. Reflect on the idea that "When someone is not serving, the Body of Christ suffers." How does this statement resonate with you, and what role do you see yourself playing in the health of the church community?
4. Take a moment to examine your own talents, time, and treasure. In what ways have you used these resources to serve others in the past, and how can you continue to do so in the future?
5. Evaluate your current emotional bandwidth. How full or empty is your "emotional tank," and what factors contribute to its state?
6. Consider the differences between a reactionary lifestyle and an intentional lifestyle. Which lifestyle do you find yourself leaning toward, and what steps can you take to cultivate a more intentional approach to serving?
7. Think about the story of Martha and Mary in Luke 10:38-42. Do you identify more with Martha or Mary in your approach to serving? Why?
8. Reflect on the concept of self-imposed requirements and how they may distract you from focusing on what truly matters. What self-imposed requirements do you struggle with, and how do they affect your willingness to serve?
9. Consider the implications of Jesus' words to Martha: "one thing is necessary." What does it mean for you to prioritize sitting at the feet of Jesus in the midst of your serving commitments?
10. As you think about freeing up emotional bandwidth, what practical steps can you take to cultivate a deeper connection with God and others while serving?

Conclusion:

- As we conclude, let's commit to overcoming obstacles to serving by prioritizing our relationship with God, embracing an intentional lifestyle, and freeing up emotional bandwidth to serve wholeheartedly. Remember, as we serve one another, we glorify God and build up the Body of Christ.