

Prayer and Serving

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- Every follower of Jesus is in a war

*[Ephesians 5:14-16](#) This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." **15** Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, **16** making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*

- We fight with a peculiar strategy

[2 Corinthians 10:3](#) For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does.

[Matthew 6:27](#) Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

*[Matthew 6:31-32](#) So do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" **32** For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them.*

- Worrying is worthless
- In a world of anxiety, the church is called to be an oasis of peace

*[Matthew 6:33-34](#) But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. **34** Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

- We seek God's Kingdom by praying

*[Luke 5:15-16](#) Yet the news about him [Jesus] spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. **16** But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.*

[Psalm 100:4](#) Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

- We seek God's Kingdom by serving

*[John 13:13-15](#) "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. **14** Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. **15** I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.*

- **Why We Serve: #1** – Jesus loves the world

[Luke 19:10](#) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

- We exist to glorify God by being a loving community where people are saved, set free, disciplined, empowered, and sent out to fulfill their God-given calling.

- **Why We Serve: #2** – God has given you something to contribute

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

- **Why We Serve: #3** – Our church needs you

1 Corinthians 12:21-22 The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." **22** In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary.

- “No one made a bigger mistake than he who did nothing, because he could only do a little.”
- **Why We Serve: #4** – God shapes us as we serve
- Text **YES** to 321.574.6970 if you have chosen to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior.

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.