Ephesians 2:8-10 "[8] For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— [9] not by works, so that no one can boast. [10] For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." (NIV)

Life Point: I was SAVED to SERVE unselfishly.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for **good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that **we would walk in them**." (NASB)

Ephesians 2:10 "… we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do **good things**. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives." (CEB)

Titus 2:14 "… [Jesus] gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for **good deeds**." (NASB)

EXAMPLES OF SERVICE

1 Timothy 5:9-10 "[9] No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, [10] and is well known for her **good deeds,** such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the saints, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of **good deeds**." (NIV)

Acts 9:36 "In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas), she was always **doing good** and helping the poor." (NIV)

RESOURCES FOR SERVICE

2 Corinthians 9:8 "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every **good work."** (NIV)

1. THE BIBLE equips me for service.

   2 Timothy 3:16-17 "16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every **good work**." (NIV)

2. CHRISTIANS are to encourage each other to serve.

   Hebrews 10:24 "… let us consider who we may spur one another on toward love and **good deeds**." (NIV)

3. My CHURCH LEADERS are to prepare me to serve.

   Ephesians 4:11-13 "11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (NIV)

4. My SPIRITUAL GIFTS empower me to serve.

   1 Peter 4:10 "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to **serve others**, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (NIV)

BENEFITS OF SERVING

Titus 3:8 "This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to **doing what is good**. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone." (NIV)

1. Serving others VERIFIES my faith.

James 2:14-17 "14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has **no deeds**? Can such faith save them? 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. 16 If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied **by action**, is dead." (NIV)

2. Serving others MEET NEEDS.

Titus 3:14 "Our people must learn to devote themselves to **doing what is good**, in order that they may provide for urgent needs and not live unproductive lives." (NIV)

3. Serving others SWAYS people towards God.

1 Peter 2:12 "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your **good deeds** and glorify God on the day He visits." (NIV)

4. Serving others PLEASES GOD.

Hebrew 13:16 "And do not forget to **do good** and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (NIV)

BOTTOM LINE

Galatians 6:9-10 "9 Let us not become weary in **doing good**, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, **let us do good** to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." (NIV)

Psalm 100:2 "Serve the Lord with gladness …" (KJV)