

Live2Serve
What Does It Mean to Serve?
Sunday a.m. 1/21/2018

- ❖ It has been five years since Live2Serve became our mission statement
- ❖ We believed God was leading the church to focus on living daily for God

■ **Over the last 5 years, we have been to:**

- ✚ Honduras: Forgotten Children's Ministry
- ✚ Aqua Viva Baptist Church, Boise, Idaho: remodeling Sunday School
- ✚ Soldotna, Alaska: construction of dorm for mission teams
- ✚ Brooklyn, New York: worked with Cornerstone Church at Bayridge
- ✚ Stable Baptist, Saucier, MS: Upward Basketball Camp

■ **Local projects:**

- ✚ Clean up project: Choices Pregnancy Center
- ✚ Painting: Anchor of Hope Baptist Church in East Chattanooga
- ✚ Church wide service projects at East Brainerd Elementary
- ✚ Women's Ministry service projects: East Lake Elementary, Room in the Inn, coin laundry, Christian Women's Job Corp, Ladle of Love soup for home bound

- ✚ Hosted the Auburn row team for Head of the Hooch Regatta
- ✚ Hosted various mission teams for local projects or overnight stay
- ✚ Thanksgiving Dinner for Orange Grove group homes
- ✚ Christmas Angel: Prison Prevention Ministry
- ✚ Operation Christmas Child: Samaritan's Purse

- ✚ Glorified: Silverdale Prison Revival
- ✚ Made salvation bracelets for Hamilton County Baptist Association
- ✚ Ministry to Assisted Living Homes
- ✚ Compassion International

- ✚ Built several handicap ramps for members and non-members
- ✚ Added a bedroom for a family in the church
- ✚ Relevant Hope: Made blessing bags for the homeless
- ✚ VBS
- ✚ Armory service projects: partnering with TN Baptist Children's Home, yard cleanup for members
- ✚ Sunday School classes have had many projects

- Made 500 bags for police officers
 - Provide financial help for families
 - Gives stuffed animals to Children's Advocacy Center quarterly
 - Gives can goods to the Community Kitchen at Christmas
- ✚ Student Ministry service projects:
 - Served meals at Ronald McDonald House,
 - Made snack baskets for hospital waiting room,
 - Sorted clothes at Samaritan Center,
 - Yard work and visits for senior adults,
 - Served meals at Chattanooga Community Kitchen,
 - Put gift bags together and hosted Christmas party for East Lake Elementary
 - ✚ Live to Serve Quilters made quilts, little girl dresses & little boys pants to send to Honduras
 - ✚ Morris Hill Craft Show

Individuals

- ✚ English as Second language
- ✚ Serve at HaCoBa
- ✚ Takes shut ins to doctor appointments
- ✚ Volunteer work at Nursing homes
- ✚ Medical mission trips
- ✚ Health and wellness ministry

🌟 **Over 500 were involved in these projects over the last five years**

✚ Lottie Moon Christmas Offering **2013-2017 - \$33,500.00**

🌟 **Our total giving last year was \$1,100,000.00**

✚ Kingdom Fund \$57,802.00

✚ Went over by \$1,334.47

✚ You gave an additional \$6,000.00 to Christmas Angel and Operation Christmas Child

✚ We also gave to Harbor Evangelism and Lighthouse Children's Home, Costa Rica

■ Serving is A Choice

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

serve – to work or labor, to be a servant, to serve God, such as a priest

✪ Service to God is “joyous and liberating”, not bondage

Exodus 3:12 (NKJV)

So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve (**worship**) God on this mountain."

■ Serving Means Following Jesus

John 12:26 (NKJV)

If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

• We follow Jesus

follow – word for road; going the same way with someone

- ✚ We begin with him and follow Him down the path, in union with Christ
- ✚ Jesus is the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end
- ✚ We must put Jesus Christ first in our life

• We will be with Jesus

“True servants stay close to their masters”

• We are honored by the Father

- ✪ When we follow Christ, obey Him, put Him first in our life, then the Father will honor us for our obedience and sacrifice

- **We will worship Christ**

Luke 4:8 (NKJV)

And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.

worship – fall prostrate before

- **Serving means obedience**

- ✚ Can you serve God and not be obedient?
- ✚ Can you serve God and not acknowledge His ownership of your life?

- **Obedience can be painful**

Acts 20:19 (NKJV)

serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials which happened to me by the plotting of the Jews;

servng - douleuo; to yield obedience, give one's self up to be servant

- **Obedience brings acceptance and approval**

Romans 14:17-18 (NKJV)

17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. 18 For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.

✚ **Acceptance by God; The “well done thy good and faithful servant”**

- **Serving is not about self**

❖ There are those that serve selfishly, only interested in self

Romans 16:17-18 (NKJV)

17 Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. 18 For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

■ Serving is giving of self

1 Corinthians 9:19 (NKJV)

For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;

made myself a servant - give self wholly to one's needs and service, make self a bondman to him

❖ This is willingly, intentionally becoming a slave

Romans 12:11 (NKJV)

not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;

❖ Not lazy, but fervent, zealous in our serving

❖ Serving is always related to God

❖ When God is left out, then it is just good deeds, usually for yourself

Close

- ✚ Service is not about being busy
- ✚ Serving is not a mission project or a mission trip once a year
- ✚ Serving is a lifestyle, how you live your life every day of the week

🌀 **The true servant does not have time to worry about having his own way because he is busy carrying out what the Lord wants in his life**