

Remember Why You Serve

Read together: Galatians 1:10; Colossians 3:23

Serving Christ gives leaders a steady purpose when appreciation is scarce, opinions differ, and ministry becomes tiring.

Recognize what is driving you

Most of us know what it feels like to work hard and wonder whether anybody noticed. We showed up early. We stayed late. We carried a responsibility that made the day better for other people. A word of thanks would have meant a lot, and it never came.

Wanting encouragement is human. We should be generous in giving it. But when approval becomes the reason we serve, our motivation moves with everybody else's response. One comment can lift us for a week. One disappointment can make us question why we are here.

Paul's words in Galatians bring us back to the One we serve. Our place in Christ gives us a steadier foundation than a title or a compliment. Before you evaluate what people thought about your work, remember who called you to love and serve them.

Stay clear about the purpose

People will have different preferences about almost everything a church does. That is part of leading a community. You will hear opinions about music, communication, scheduling, and the way a room is arranged. Some of that feedback will help you improve. Listen carefully and remain teachable.

At the same time, pleasing every person cannot become the measure of faithful leadership. We are helping people know Jesus, grow in faith, and find a place in His church. Keeping that purpose clear helps us receive feedback without letting every preference redirect the mission.

Ask yourself a simple question: Am I responding to this person with love, and am I staying faithful to the responsibility God has given me? We can care about people deeply without promising that every decision will be their preferred decision. That combination requires humility and a clear sense of purpose.

Bring your work back to Christ

Colossians 3:23 calls us to work wholeheartedly for the Lord. That gives dignity to responsibilities people may never applaud. Preparing a room, caring for a child, following through on a promise, and helping a tired teammate all become opportunities to serve Christ.

When discouragement grows, take it honestly to Him. You do not need to pretend that criticism never hurts or that fatigue is a sign of weak faith. Remembering why you serve creates room to ask for help,

receive encouragement, and return with a healthier heart.

The original call still matters. We get to participate in God's work in people's lives. Let that truth shape the attitude you bring into the room and the way you speak about the people you serve.

Lead this week

Before your next responsibility, pause and offer it to Jesus. Name the approval you have been hoping to receive, then ask Him to help you serve with a willing heart. Also encourage someone whose faithful work is easy to overlook. A team becomes healthier when its leaders remember their purpose and generously honor one another.

Talk it through

Whose response most affects your motivation? What helps you return to a willing heart?

One next step

Pray before serving, then give one teammate specific, sincere encouragement.