

Principles for a Transformed Life (PTL)

Principle #7: Service to Others

Every Christian is called to a life of service to others. This is especially important to those of us who are overcoming life-controlling habits, crippling attitudes, and destructive behaviors. We have sown much bad seed. We need to begin planting a new crop. Our life of service includes helping people in trouble and carrying the message of freedom in Jesus Christ.

- ◆ The Lord Jesus Christ came to give His life in service to others. He left this as our example.
 - Mark 10:45 / Luke 22:26-27 / John 13:14-16
 - Philippians 2:5-8 **Identification is the key to ministry.** Jesus put Himself in my shoes. He asks me to do the same for others.
- ◆ We are created to serve one another. It feels good to have purpose in life.
 - Ephesians 2:10 / Galatians 5:13 / 1 Peter 4:10 / Matthew 5:16 / 2 Corinthians 9:8 / Matthew 25:35-40 / John 15:13 / Ephesians 5:2
- ◆ We carry the message that set us free, freedom through Jesus Christ.
 - Mark 16:15-18 / 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 / 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Topics for Discussion

Who helped you get free? What did they do or say that was especially helpful to you?

What verses of Scripture helped you when you were first starting out in your Christian life?

Describe your own experience in salvation and getting free from drugs and alcohol.

Describe acts of service or sharing your faith you have done. How did you feel when you did it?

- ◆ Giving and receiving is the rhythm of the kingdom. **You can't keep what you don't give away.**
 - Acts 20:35 / Psalm 41:1-3 / Psalm 112:5-9 / 2 Corinthians 9:6-12 / Philippians 4:17-20
 - Galatians 6:7 / Luke 6:38 / Hebrews 13:16 All the flowers of tomorrow are in the seeds of today. We sow seed in everything we do, not just giving money.



We are created to reflect the nature of our Father. **We are givers.**

- Ephesians 4:28 The reason we work is to have something to give. Our job is part of the flow of our purpose: giving.
- Each of us has things - talents, skills, time, opportunities, experiences - which are given us in order to bless others. 1 Peter 4:10 - 11
- Remember 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Even our troubles provide us with experience which can benefit someone else.

Topics for Discussion

We can always help by supporting ministries that reach others. What is your favorite Bible verse about giving? What ministries do you support?

Aside from your finances, what ways can you think of to be a blessing to others?

Formulate a plan to give of yourself. Be specific as to how you will do it and when. Good intentions are insufficient.