



“Discipline yourself for the purpose of Godliness” - 1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)

HCYA HURRICANES SOCCER – WEEK 6

Four wins. Two defeats. Two ties. Two game cancelations...that was our record last week. In reality however, the memory of the results and performances will quickly fade. Not so with the Word of God. Scripture tells us in 1 Peter 1:24-25 that, “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord endures forever.” It’s for this very reason that we purposely study what the Bible has to say about spiritual disciplines. Our faith journey requires effort and intentionality if we are to be the men and women God calls us to be...

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE: SERVING – FOR THE PURPOSE OF GODLINESS

In a world where “Me, myself and I” has created entitlement mentality, it’s clear that we need a re-calibration of priorities. If we are to truly model the life of Christ, we must learn to put the needs of others above our own. One of the clearest indications that a person has truly believed the gospel of Jesus is that a new, Christlike desire to serve begins to overcome their selfish desire to be served. However, several very important aspects of serving must be understood:

- Many times, serving is hard work. Colossians 1:29 says, “For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me.” The word “toil” means to work “to the point of exhaustion”. Like Paul, sometimes our service will be agonizing and exhausting. It will take our time. It will often prove more stressful or less enjoyable than other ways we could invest our life.
- Even though serving can be agonizing and exhausting, it is also the most rewarding kind of work. Despite the frequent weariness, hunger, thirst, pain and inconvenience, Jesus said that the work of serving God was so fulfilling to Him that it was like nourishing, satisfying food: “My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish His work” (John 4:34).
- Our service should be motivated by gratitude. When serving God seems like a burden, we need to be reminded of the miracle of God drawing the believer to Himself – and be thankful for His grace and mercy in doing so
- Our service should be motivated by gladness. A believer does not look upon serving as drudgery, but rather as a privilege.
- Our service should be motivated by forgiveness, not guilt. The people of God do not serve Him in order to be forgiven, but because they are forgiven.
- Our service should be motivated by humility. Our affinity for sin will say, “If I have to serve, I want to get something from it.” But this isn’t Christlike service. This is hypocrisy.
- Our service should be motivated by love. The more we love God the more we will live for Him and serve Him and those around us.



In the days ahead, let’s be on the lookout for someone to serve. Be alert to things that need to be done. Be a difference maker and follow the example of Christ who came not to be served, but to serve...

See you next week!

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MEMORY VERSE

“Serve one another in love” (Galatians 5:13)