

Help your Church Members Find their Place of Service

After going through a Foundations group, your church members have now determined how God uniquely designed them to joyfully serve in His church to accomplish His mission. They have learned their spiritual gifts, passions, abilities, personality, and experiences. Now you have to help them find their place of service in the church. It is essential that you help your church members find their place to serve in the church that God prepared for them, not what the need is, or what you or your church leaders want, but what God wants. God knows the mission of your church and what you need to accomplish His mission. You can trust Him to provide the people with the gifts and abilities that your church needs. Your job is to be clear about what God's mission for the church is and to help your church members find their joyful place of service in the church to accomplish His mission.

“For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

- What God has done:
 - “God's workmanship”: He has uniquely crafted each believer
 - “Created in Christ Jesus”: Jesus lives and works in me and He works through me in His body, the church
 - “I no longer live, but Christ lives in me” Galatians 2:20
 - “Now you are the body of Christ (the church), and each one of you is a part of it.” 1 Corinthians 12:27
 - “God prepared in advance”: Each believer was uniquely created from the beginning to fit into His church and accomplish His mission
- What we must do:
 - Provide our church members a spiritual foundation of a disciple of Jesus by taking them through a Foundations Group. This is where they find out how God has shaped them to minister in the Church.
 - Help them find the place of service God created them for
 - Provide initial and ongoing training for their specific place of service

If we don't help our church members find the joyful place of service God created for them, then they will:

- Get tired instead of energized by serving
- Burn out instead of burn brightly (“let your light shine” Matthew 5:16)
- Experience sadness instead of joy
- Be a negative influence rather than a positive influence
- Serve out of obligation rather than joy
- Feel guilt rather than grace

Do you see how important it is to have people serve in your church for the right reasons and in the right place? Here are some ways you can help your church members find the place of service God has prepared them for:

- First of all they must have the spiritual foundation of a disciple of Jesus by going through a Foundations Group. With the Ministry Profile, you and they will know their spiritual gifts, passion, abilities, personality, and experiences and can find the place of service God intends for them.
- Have a list of ministry opportunities available for Foundations Groups when they study this chapter. Make sure the Foundations leaders know about this list and use it.

- Collect a copy of the Ministry Profiles and contact people for specific ministry opportunities that they are suited for.
- Ministry leaders in specific areas of ministry should always be looking for qualified volunteers through their network of relationships
- Don't ever require people to serve in an area of ministry that they are not suited for. Help them find another place of service.
- Have special worship services emphasizing finding your joyful place of service. Tables can be set up for the different ministries so people can sign up for a specific ministry after the service. This gives people an opportunity to apply what they just learned from your sermon. This is sometimes called a "Ministry Fair".
- Provide initial and ongoing training for your staff and volunteers so they are equipped to do the ministry.