

## Want to Grow in Your Serving?

“If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.” John 15:5

We all have room to grow in our serving, but change isn't easy. These three simple steps help.

### 1. Pray and Listen

Talk to God and look for his input. Here are some ways to increase your connection with him.

- Regular worship with your church family
- Regular time at home reading scripture and in prayer
- Increase prayer time; include a quiet time of listening with your prayers
- Conversation with someone further along in their faith journey

### 2. Do Something! Start small. Pick ONE thing you will do or do differently. Some suggestions:

If you want to more deeply connect your serving and your faith

- Initiate or expand daily devotional time
- Begin and end each serving experience with prayer
- Pray specifically for a particular need or challenge you are facing
- Read *Every Good Endeavor* by Timothy Keller

If you want to be more intentional about where you serve

- Explore how God has gifted you. List your abilities, interests, experiences and the causes you care about. Ask others what they see as your strengths. Use one of the tools in the 'Using My Time and Talents' in the Resources document linked below.
- Consider how the things you do line up (or not) with your abilities, interests, experience and the causes you care about.
- To find new places to serve, check out opportunities at your church, local volunteer center, local nonprofits or national database. See Resources document for links.

Regarding the impact of your serving

- Pray specifically for those you are serving
- The only source of unshakeable joy is in what God has done for us. Use a Bible app to search for verses about 'joy.' Post where you'll see them frequently.
- Read *Toxic Charity* by Robert Lupton

### 3. Tell Someone.

Accountability increases success. Tell a friend or family member what you plan to do, or do differently, and why. Ask them to check in with you at a later agreed-upon time.

10/20/2020

