

- Sometimes we have to quit doing one thing so we can start doing the <u>right</u> thing.
- Stop coming to church and start being the church.

 $20\,$ Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD. Proverbs 16:20 (NIV)

"Filling In" says:

- "I don't want to **commit** myself."
- "I'm not sure I **belong** here."
- "I have other things I'd rather be doing."
- "Don't count on me."

"I'm just filling in", communicates "I'm not **bought in**".

36 "Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?" 37 Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' Matthew 22:36-37 (NLT)

- Rather than "filling in", God wants us to go <u>all in</u>. Philippians 3:15 (MSG)
- Being "all in" is a <u>heart</u> issue.

Mark 9:35 (NLT)

The Importance of Serving:

Serving deals with my love affair with <u>myself</u>. Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)

☐ We'll never have the right heart if we are the **priority**.

Serving nurtures a heart of <u>compassion</u>. Colossians 3:12 (NIV)

At the core of compassion is **emotion**.

Mark 1:40-41 NLT ; Matt 14:14; Matt 20:34

- Compassion changes <u>lives</u>, and the life that is changed most is <u>ours!</u>
- Serving makes us **spend time** with people. John 3:22 (NIV)

The Heart of a Servant:

A servant puts **service** over **status**.

Philippians 2:3-4 (NIV)

- A servant puts **commitment** over **convenience**. Romans 15:1-2 (MSG)
- A servant puts we overme.

Acts 2:44-45

A servant puts **compassion** over **comfort**.

Matthew 25:37-40

27 ...All of you together are the one body of Christ, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27 (TLB)

As we increase our commitment, our **impact** becomes greater.

1 Corinthians 12:25-27 (MSG)

In a Healthy Church:

- We are all doing our **part**. Romans 12:5 (NLT)
- We're focused on others, not ourselves.
 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)
- **Love** is our expression 1 John 3:17 (MSG)

Application:

Take a step towards greater impact - **commit** to a team and **love** the people you serve.

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)-464-5754

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture (or point) spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday?
- What does this statement mean to you: "Stop coming to church and start being the church."?
- How do you feel when someone refuses to be "bought in"? (marriage, church, friendship, etc.)
- How does a lack of commitment affect our impact in the lives of others?
- · Why is serving important to being "all in"? Do you believe that serving others is a heart issue?
- Talk through the points under: "The importance of Serving". Do you think serving in the church is important?
- Under the sub-heading "The Heart of a Servant:", which points do you struggle with most? How do you
 overcome the struggle?
- What happens when we all do our part in serving in the church? What happens when we don't do our part?
- How do we make sure serving others doesn't become a job? How do we make sure we are focused on others in our serving?
- How can you make your personal expression of love greater?

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