

Even When Helping is Hard!

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If I were to write a letter of recommendation for you, would you have enough credibility become a citizen? All too often there is a disconnect between what we know to do, and what we really do! When you stand before God's immigration counter will you be able to come up with specific examples of service that you have performed for God and others that demonstrate that you are a good citizen of heaven? Or will you hang your head before God and say, "I guess I haven't done much of anything?"

Weariness is bad for the Soul!

"Weary," ἔκκακέω **ekkakeo** means to be utterly spiritless and exhausted.

By not doing good, we are actually doing evil, and that causes weariness!

Five things that cause weariness:

Fatigue: That's why you need to get adequate rest.

Frustration: That's why we need to learn contentment.

Failure: That's why we need to believe in the sovereignty of God.

Fear: That's why we need to cast our cares of Him.

Feelings: That's why we need to adjust our attitudes and thoughts.

In context, this is talking about weariness in ministry. 3:10-12

Some were taking charity so that they wouldn't have to work!

It was creating discontent in the church.

We want to foster a culture of good deeds and hard work.

God loves a cheerful giver. **2 Cor 9:7**

Do all things without complaining and grumbling. **Philippians 2:14**

How good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! **Psalms 133:1**

Whatever you do, do heartily for the Lord." **Colossians 3:23:**

It's hard to keep serving when no one is lifting a finger to help.

Discontent is a cancer that must be cut out. **Judges 7:1-8**

If you are a demoralizing influence, get your attitude right.

Doing is Good for the Soul

"Good" καλοποιέω **kalopoieo** means to do good things.

Volunteerism makes your life happier and healthier.

Doing good for others enriches our lives beyond our expectations.

- It gives you a sense of purpose.
- It makes you feel like you are contributing something important.
- It makes other people realize that someone cares!
- It boosts self confidence and pride for a job well done.
- It helps develop valuable skills like teamwork & communication.
- It has many health benefits.

It's no coincidence that we feel better whenever we're doing good.

God made us that way.

There's no substitute for the blessing that service gives the server!

What kinds of good deeds should Christians do?

- Take good care of your family. **1 Tim 5:8**
- Take care of orphans and widows. **James 1:27** (
- Help the poor. **Prov 22:7**
- Care for the sick and for prisoners. **Matthew 25:31**
- Invite strangers over and show hospitality . **Heb 13:2**
- Minister to children and youth. **Matt 19:14**
- Exercise your spiritual gifts. **Rom 12:3-8**

We must intentionally carve out time to do good unto others.

There is no excuse to be a Christian who is not serving. We have the opportunities available. You are expected to do many good works! It is one way people may identify us as followers of Christ. Right now God Invites YOU to be a part of something bigger than yourself, and make an impact that changes your little corner of the world.