

## The Service of Love

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from such an impulse within did they engage in the war.

The difference between the Greeks and the Persians is just the difference I want to describe among the professed followers of our Lord. The genuine Christian serves God because he loves him; not that he fears hell, for he knows that he has been delivered from condemnation, being washed in Jesus' blood; not that he expects to earn heaven. Heaven is not to be merited by our poor paltry works. Besides, heaven is a Christian's inheritance, since Christ has given it to him, having made his title sure. A Christian serves God because he loves him. He is drawn by a sense of the love of God towards him to love God in return.

## You Tell on Yourself

*C. H. Spurgeon, 1906*

Whitefield and a company of ministers were talking together and expressing their desire to go to heaven. Good Mr. Tennant was the only man who differed from them. He said he did not wish to die; and he thought that if his brother, Whitefield, would but consider, he would not wish to be gone either. He said, "If you hire a man to do a day's work, and he is saying all the day, 'I wish it were evening. I wish it were time to go home,' you would think, 'What a lazy fellow he is,' and you would wish you

had never hired him."

"So," he said, "I am afraid it is nothing but our idleness that often prompts us to desire to be away from our work. If there be a soul to win, let me not stop until I have won it. Truly, some of us might summon up courage enough to say, 'I would fain barter heaven for the glory of Christ, and not only wait twenty years out of heaven, if I may have twenty years of glorifying Him the better'"


## Which Way?

*C. H. Spurgeon*

Nothing for a Christian to do? It is not, "What should I do," but, "Where shall I begin doing it?" I say, "Begin at the point that is nearest to you." This they did when they built the walls of Jerusalem. Every man built opposite his own house. The advantage was, he had not to walk two miles to his work at noon and then come back at night. He built opposite to his own house, so he was spared all that trouble. When he had a little leisure time, when he could sit and look at his work, and think how to do it better next time; there was a further advantage in that.

Much economy and great benefit would come of it were Christians to work near where they live, and take up that part of Christian service most congenial to their circumstances and to their tastes. Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, next to thine own door, do it with all thy might.

**The Bible View**



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## Do Sumthin'

*Bill Brinkworth*

God's intention for each person after they are saved is not just to sit around and soak up knowledge from church, but to do something that would get more saved, and to get more to live for the Lord. Each child of God should be a tool that God can use for His glory, utilizing the spiritual gifts (Rom. 12:4-8) He has entrusted with each individual.



These gifts can be used to reach the lost and glorify God in many different ways. Here are some of the ministries I have seen many serving the Lord in:

**Preaching ministry.** There are many that God has called and directed to reach the world with His message by enabling them to preach. Preaching is not always from the pulpit on Sunday, but many have preached at subway stations, by the side of the road, public gatherings, or wherever

they could expound God's Word publicly. God can use the angels to preach his message, but He has chosen people to tell the world of His will and way. Some have "preached" by not even uttering a word, but "speaking" boldly by their Christian example in public. Most of us would not be saved, if it were not for someone's "preaching" God's truths to us!

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## The Service of Love

*C. H. Spurgeon*

It is said that the soldiers of Persia were driven into battle, and that the sound of the whips of their generals could be heard even while the battle was raging, lashing on the unwilling ranks to force them to fulfill their part in the fray. Not so went the Greeks to battle. They rushed in like lions amidst a flock of sheep to tear their prey. They fought for their country, for their temples, for their lives, for all that they held dear, and right cheerfully

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## Do Sumthin'

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**Teaching ministry.** Some have been burdened to teach the world what God's Word says. If a teacher does not teach them, who will? Many have used their talents, hobbies, or interests in making God's Word clear to those they have taught. I have seen some use Gospel magic, art, puppets, and even their interest in animals to get the attention of many, and while using their teaching medium, teaching the audiences biblical principles.

**Visitation ministry.** Many churches have organized visitation at least one day a week, where all go, usually in groups of two's, to visit shut-ins, those that have previously visited the church, or just to knock on neighboring doors to invite people to church. Sometimes there are even opportunities to tell the people how to be saved. Millions have been saved by this method. If a church does not have this opportunity, then people can still visit their neighbors, canvas their community or anyone the Lord puts on their heart as a ministry unto the Lord. Telling others God's Good News is not just a pastor's responsibility!

**Nursing home ministry.** I call it the "Last Chance Ministry", because for many of a home's residents, it is the last

opportunity many will hear of how to be saved, or what God's Word says. In this ministry, one can preach to those living at the facility, or just visit those that are there. Many in the homes have lost their loved ones, and could certainly use an encouraging visit.

**Tract Ministry.** A "tract" is a little piece of paper that has the plan of salvation on it, or teaches some biblical truth. They can be obtained at one's church or purchased at a Christian bookstore. These tracts can be left in bathrooms, given to toll booth attendants, handed to a person waiting in line with us in a restaurant, included in an envelope when paying bills, or be given out to those that we come in contact with every day.

**Van or Bus ministry.** Many churches have a bus or van ministry where a vehicle picks up children and adults and brings them to church. Get involved as a driver or worker. If your church does not have such a ministry, start one with your own vehicle. Bring as many as you can to hear God's message. Someone may be saved because of your efforts.

**Singing ministry.** Singing in church services is available in most churches. Some have even taken their ability and sung on

their own in hospital or nursing home rooms. Wherever they see the opportunity, they use their ability to honor and glorify the Lord.

**Prison ministry.** Prisons are often a place where folks are willing to listen to what the Bible has to say.

**Writing ministry.** God has always preserved His teaching with the written Word. His Message can still be given out using this media. One can expound what the Bible teaches by getting articles published in newspapers (letters-to-the-editor are a good place to tell others the biblical way about a current matter). Articles can be published in Christian newsletters, web sites, and other publications. Cards and letters can also be sent to encourage others, and show that someone cares. Some have even prayerfully picked names out of phone books and written to strangers and given them the plan of salvation

**Help ministry.** Some notice a need in others' lives and help them meet it; be it a visit to a lonely person or one going through difficult times, babysitting for a working single parent, or even doing household chores for someone who is physically unable to do certain things. They do it as unto the Lord!

**Be a friend.** Most know what it is like not to have a friend. Some take it upon themselves to be a friend to someone who does not have one.

**Deaf or language interpret-**

**ing ministry.** Hearing the Word of God is essential. The deaf, or those that speak another language, may not hear it unless someone helps them understand God's truths in the language they can understand.

In a time where freedom to proclaim God's Word is being limited, it is past time that more Christians get involved in telling others. The partial list above of ministries is intended to give some ideas on how one can serve the Lord in reaching others with the Gospel and giving God the glory He deserves.

A child of God must first have the desire to serve the Lord. Earnest prayer is needed in finding how one can make a Christian difference in this world. God certainly wants all to serve Him, and He will show them if they ask.

What are you doing for the Lord? Call on the Lord today and get His direction in using you in a ministry. It is way past time for all to "do sumthin'" for the Lord!

**"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, and as long as you can."**

— John Wesley

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." *Ecc. 9:10*