



A Bible Study On Service

Suggested use: To introduce this topic, show the brief video on Service, *Giving As We Age*. It is available for viewing on ALOA's website at <https://aloaserves.org/key-resources/videos/faith-spirituality-videos/>

How does God call people to faith in Jesus as his son and savior from sin and death?

How does God call people of faith to be people who serve others?

1. God calls people to faith through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 2:8-9
I Corinthians 12:3

So how does the Holy Spirit do this work?

2. God calls His people to be His servants through the work of the Holy Spirit.

I Corinthians 12:4-11
Ephesians 2:10

So how does the Holy Spirit do this work?

3. Questions for discussion:

- How do people who are called to faith in Jesus become aware and carry out their calling to be a servant of God?
- How have you come to know the works of serving that the Holy Spirit has gifted you with?
- What is the role of the parish pastor in helping people carry out their God-given gifts of service? See Ephesians 4:7-13
- What is the role of other staff members of a congregation?

- What is the role of leaders of the congregation?
- What is the role of the members of the congregation? See Hebrews 10:19-25
- Would it be helpful in every congregation had a person who was called to be a volunteer coordinator and what would that person do?
- Does Colossians 2:1-5 indicate that Paul was struggling with this issue of people coming to understand the respond to God's calling?

4. Do you think that we make it hard for the Holy Spirit to work simply because we do not ask people to serve?

If you ask the average volunteer why he or she started serving at a particular time in a particular place, most will shrug their shoulders and say, "Because someone asked me." Is it common that we have congregations with people who love the Lord, their church, and other people but have never crossed the line into intentional servanthood simply because no one has ever asked them to?

Pastor Ken Holdorf has been in ordained ministry for over 50 years, and currently serves as Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Carrollton, Texas. He is the author of several manuals on senior adult ministry, including *Best Practices for Ministry By and For Senior Adults*. Pastor Holdorf generously grants permission for this study to be copied, used and adapted to fit individual needs.

Adult Lutherans Organized for Action - ALOA is a nationwide resource to the church that strengthens ministry by and for older adults. ALOA helps congregations provide more intentional and dynamic ministry by and for older adults and encourages older adult individuals to affirm their gifts and use them in service to family, church, community and world.



ALOA is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the LCMS and an affiliated Social Ministry Organization of the ELCA.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

