Life Steps

Serve Together Weekend | April 13 & 14, 2024

Monday Colossians 3:23-24

Reflect: How would you describe your Serve Together Weekend worship experience? What is the difference between working and working for the Lord? (Reread the text)

Prayer: God, use the Center for ASD, Cumberland Youth and Family Services, and our Pathway Foster Care Ministry to make sure every child knows they are valued, important, and loved. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Tuesday Philippians 2:1-4

Reflect: Time for a little self-examination. How do you value others "above yourself?" How do you not value others "above yourself?" How did you experience God's presence during Serve Together Weekend? **Prayer:** God, use Crazy 8 Ministries and the Adera Foundation to alleviate poverty in our own backyard and the other side of the earth. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Wednesday John 15:13

Reflect: Recall experiences where others went to great lengths to take care of you, protect you, and or make sure you knew you are loved. Memorial Day is around the corner, spend a few moments reflecting on the sacrifices that have been made so we might live in freedom. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Prayer: Thank you, God, for all of the men and women who have served and continue to serve in our armed forces. Release your healing power through our Caring Physical Charity Network to bring hope to veterans who are wounded mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Thursday Isaiah 58:1-10

Reflect: More than 44 million people in the U.S., including every 1 in 5 children, live in a state of perpetual hunger. What does the Bible teach us about feeding the hungry as an extension of God's justice? What verse in this passage most stood out to you? Why?

Prayer: God of justice, multiply the 25,001 Rise Against Hunger meal kits to feed your people near and far. Here am I Lord, use me.

Friday Matthew 25:31-40

Reflect: According to 2022 data, around 93,000 Texans live in a perpetual state of homelessness. What is your first thought when you see someone who appears to be homeless? What are your first emotions? What thoughts, and emotions or questions does verse forty evoke?

Prayer: Thank you, God, for the good work of the Presbyterian Night Shelter. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Saturday Luke 2:25-37

Reflect: Simeon and Anna were both senior in years. How do you think their responses impacted Mary and Joseph impacted them? In the U.S., approximately 50% of the population over age 60 are at risk for social isolation, and over 1/3 will experience severe loneliness. How would you gauge your affection, interest, and engagement with those who are at such risks?

Prayer: Help me, Lord, to be more patient, accepting, and understanding of our aging population. Here am I, Lord, use me.

Sunday Hebrews 9:11-14

Reflect: Jesus allowed his blood to be shed to "cleanse our consciences" from destructive ways so we can "serve the living God." As you prepare for worship today, what will be your response to his sacrifice? **Prayer:** Thank you, God, for the blood of Jesus shed for the forgiveness of our sins so that we might serve you with a clear conscience. Use every unit of blood given on Serve Together Weekend to save lives.

