

Rediscovering the Joy of Being with God and his People

Service

Most of us are presented with **multiple opportunities** every day to practice the spiritual discipline of service, but as with all the spiritual disciplines we still have to make a conscious choice to do it with the right mindset, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. In “The Spirit of the Disciplines”, Dallas Willard offers us a way of looking at ourselves as we practice this discipline that puts our acts of service in the proper perspective:

Service to others in the spirit of Jesus allows us the freedom of a humility that carries no burdens of “appearance.” It lets us be what we are—simply a particularly lively piece of clay who, as servant of God, happens to be here now with the ability to do this good and needful thing for that other bit of clay there. The experience of active love freed up and flowing by faith through us on such occasions will safeguard us from innumerable pitfalls of the spiritual life.

We must, then, strive to meet all persons who cross our path with openness to service for them—not, of course, in any anxious, obsequious, overly solicitous manner, but with ease and confidence born of our vision of our lives together in the hands of God.

This week, ask God to:

- **open your eyes** to the needs of the people you come into contact with
- the **discernment** to know how best to serve them
- the **enablement** of the Holy Spirit to go about it in the way that Jesus served people
- for your own heart to be **transformed** in the process

We are praying for you to experience the joy of God’s love flowing through you to others as you follow in the footsteps of our Servant King this week.