

LESSON

9



His third purpose was to build the kingdom by serving others. This was a different type of leadership. **Service is a characteristic of His followers—a divine quality.** “Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. “If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you” (John 13:13–15).
(Carlos H. Amado, “Service, a Divine Quality,” April 2008).



I testify that through serving our fellowmen we come to know the Lord. **Service makes us strong in our faith and useful in His kingdom.** Service gives us purpose and courage in life. It brings us closer to God and helps us refine our divine nature. It teaches us to love and understand our fellowmen, and it helps us forget about our personal desires, eliminating selfishness, pride, and ingratitude. It teaches us to think of the needs of others, which allows us to develop the virtues that the Savior possesses. (Carlos H. Amado, “Service, a Divine Quality,” April 2008).



“Service makes us strong in our faith and useful in His kingdom.”

Carlos H. Amado, “Service, a Divine Quality,” April 2008

GOSPEL TRUTH

When you
serve others,
you are serving
Jesus Christ.



King Benjamin

I say unto you that as I have been suffered to **spend my days in your service**, even up to this time, and have not sought gold nor silver nor any manner of riches of you; (Mosiah 2:12)



Neither have I suffered that ye should be confined in dungeons, nor that ye should make slaves one of another, nor that ye should murder, or plunder, or steal, or commit adultery; nor even have I suffered that ye should commit any manner of wickedness...(Mosiah 2:13)



...and have taught you that ye should keep the commandments of the Lord, in all things which he hath commanded you (Mosiah 2:13).



And even I, myself, have labored with mine own hands that I might serve you, and that ye should not be laden with taxes, and that there should nothing come upon you which was grievous to be borne—and of all these things which I have spoken, ye yourselves are witnesses this day. (Mosiah 2:14)



Yet, my brethren, I have not done these things that I might boast, neither do I tell these things that thereby I might accuse you; but I tell you these things that ye may know that I can answer a clear conscience before God this day. (Mosiah 2:15)



Behold, I say unto you that because I said unto you that I had spent my days in your service, I do not desire to boast, **for I have only been in the service of God.** (Mosiah 2:16)

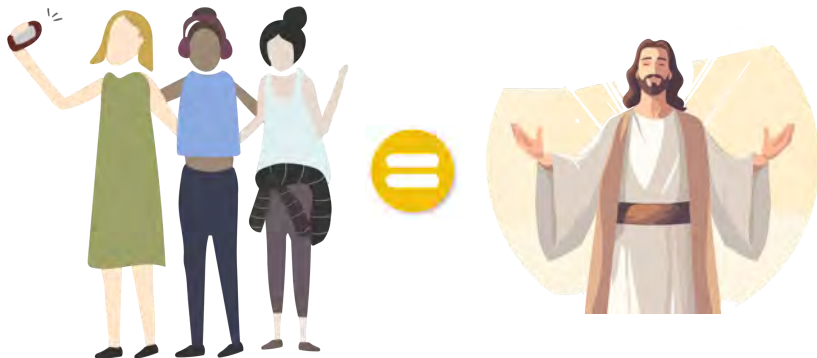


And behold, I tell you these things that ye may learn wisdom; that ye may learn that **when ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God.** (Mosiah 2:17)

Behold, ye have called me your king; and if I, whom ye call your king, do labor to serve you, then **ought not ye to labor to serve one another?** (Mosiah 2:18)

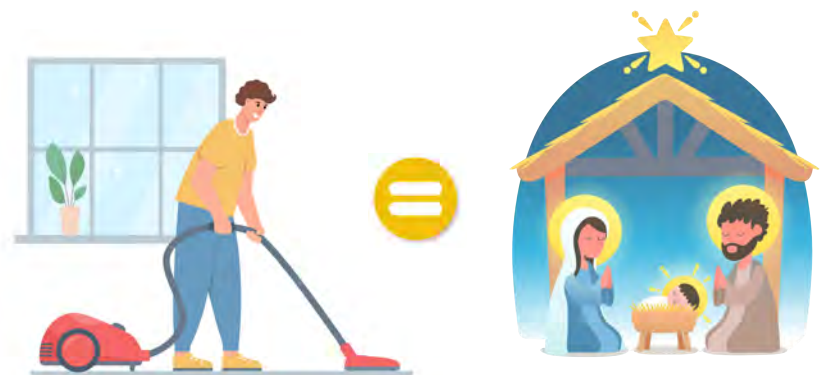


And behold also, if I, whom ye call your king, **who has spent his days in your service**, and yet has been in the service of God, do merit any thanks from you, O how you ought to thank your heavenly King! (Mosiah 2:19)



Ministering

Ministering to ward members = Ministering to Christ



Cleaning

Cleaning the Church = Cleaning Christ's house



Teaching

Teaching others = Teaching Christ



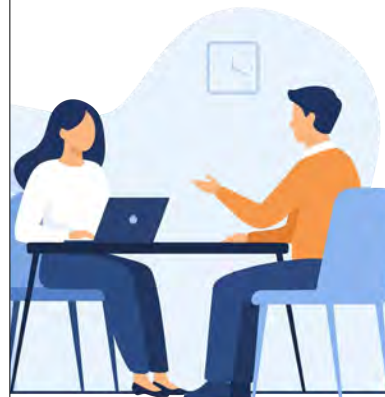
Loving

SERVING OTHERS = SERVING CHRIST



Preaching

Speaking in Sacrament meeting = Speaking in front of Christ



Listening

Listening to others = Listening to Christ



Blessing

Blessing others = Blessing Christ



Moving

Helping someone move = Helping Jesus move



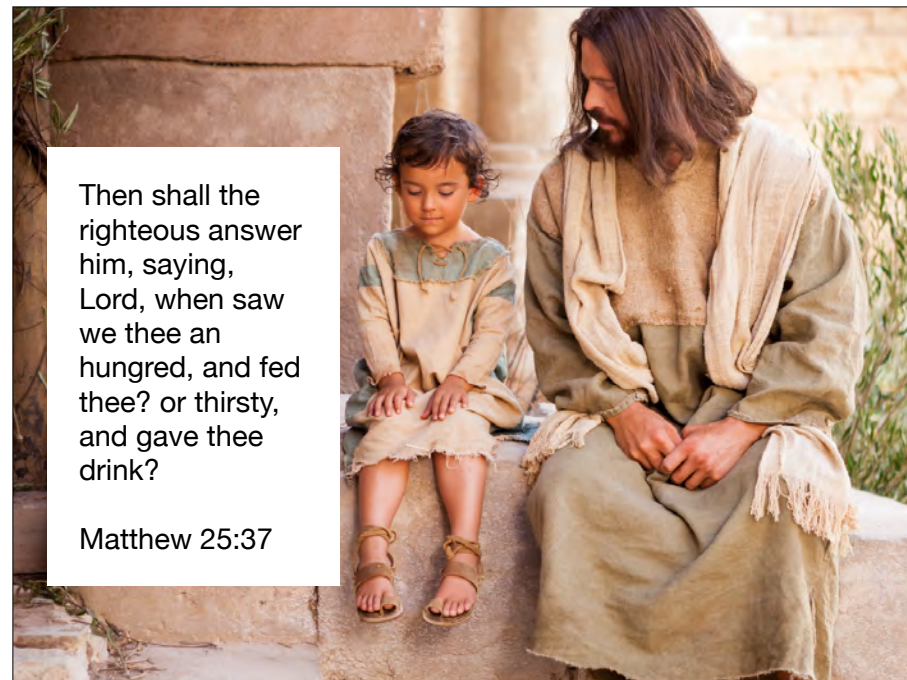
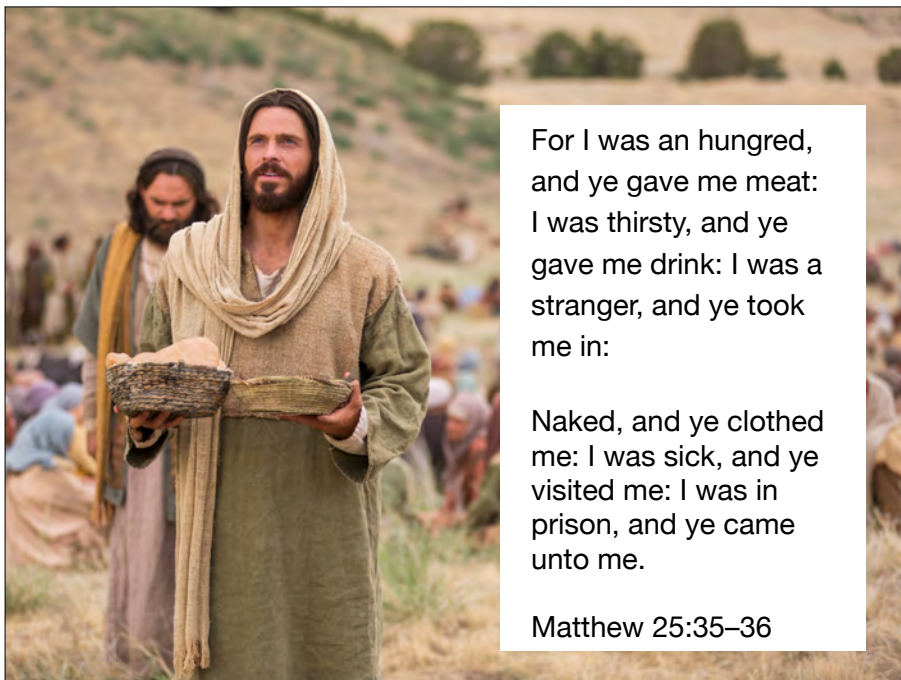
Church Calling

Serving in the Church = Serving Christ



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Elder Amado said, "Service is a characteristic of His followers—a divine quality." How does service show your faith in Jesus Christ?





On a cold winter's night in 1951 there was a knock at my door, and a German brother from Ogden, Utah, announced himself and said, "Are you Bishop Monson?" I answered in the affirmative. He began to weep and said, "My brother and his wife and family are coming here from Germany. They are going to live in your ward. Will you come with us to see the apartment we have rented for them?" (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

1/10



The next morning was Sunday. In our ward welfare committee meeting, one of my counselors said, "Bishop, you look worried. Is something wrong?" I recounted to those present my experience of the night before. (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

2/10



No one said a word. Then the group leader of the high priests said, "Bishop, did you say that apartment was inadequately lighted and that the kitchen appliances were in need of replacement?" I answered in the affirmative. He continued, "I am an electrical contractor. Would you permit the high priests of this ward to rewire that apartment? I would also like to invite my suppliers to contribute a new stove and a new refrigerator. Do I have your permission?" I answered with a glad "Certainly." (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

3/10



Then the seventies president responded: "Bishop, as you know I'm in the carpet business. I would like to invite my suppliers to contribute some carpet, and the seventies can easily lay it and eliminate that worn linoleum." (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

4/10



Then the president of the elders quorum spoke up. He was a painting contractor. He said, "I'll furnish the paint. May the elders paint and wallpaper that apartment?" (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

5/10



The Relief Society president was next to speak: "We in the Relief Society cannot stand the thought of empty cupboards. May we fill them?" (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

6/10



Then he asked, "Could we go visit the apartment?" As we walked up the staircase to the apartment, he repeated, "It isn't much, but it's more than they have had in Germany." Little did he know what a transformation had taken place, that many who participated were inside waiting for our arrival. (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

7/10



We were greeted by the aroma of freshly painted woodwork and newly papered walls. Gone was the forty-watt bulb, along with the worn linoleum it had illuminated. We stepped on carpet deep and beautiful. A walk to the kitchen presented to our view a new stove and refrigerator. The cupboard doors were still open; however, they now revealed that every shelf was filled with food. The Relief Society as usual had done its work. (Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980)

8/10



As we walked down the stairs and out into the night air, it was snowing. Not a word was spoken. Then a young girl asked, “Bishop, I feel better inside than I have ever felt before. Can you tell me why?” (Thomas S. Monson, “The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare,” Oct. 1980)

9/10



I responded with the words of the Master: “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me” (Matt. 25:40). (Thomas S. Monson, “The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare,” Oct. 1980)

10/10



LET’S TALK ABOUT IT

If you knew that Jesus Christ Himself were the person you were serving, how would that change the way you served?

GOSPEL TRUTH

God answers your
prayers through
other people.



Spencer Kimball said:
“God does notice us, and he
watches over us. **But it is usually
through another person that he
meets our needs.**”

Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball [2006], 82.

1/4

He continued: “**Therefore, it is
vital that we serve each other in
the kingdom.** The people of the
Church need each other’s
strength, support, and
leadership in a community of
believers as an enclave of
disciples.”

Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball [2006], 82.

2/4

In the Doctrine and Covenants we
read about how important it is to “...
succor the weak, **lift up** the hands
which hang down, and **strengthen**
the feeble knees.” (D&C 81:5.)

Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball [2006], 82.

3/4

President Kimball concluded:
“So often, our acts of service
consist of simple encouragement
or of giving mundane help with
mundane tasks, but what
glorious consequences can flow
from mundane acts and from
small but deliberate deeds!”

Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Spencer W. Kimball [2006], 82.

4/4



Every calling provides an opportunity to serve and to grow. The Lord organized the Church in a way that offers each member an opportunity for service, which, in turn, leads to personal spiritual growth. Whatever your calling, I urge you to see it as an opportunity not only to **strengthen and bless others** but also to become what Heavenly Father wants you to become. (Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Lift Where You Stand," Oct. 2008).



It is my witness that as we cultivate our faith, **grow through service**, and stay constant and true come what may, so we feel the Savior's love. We place ourselves in the position where we can access the breadth and depth of the blessings of the Atonement. Our membership is transformed into discipleship. We are strengthened, cleansed, refreshed, spiritually and emotionally healed. (David S. Baxter, "Faith, Service, Constancy," Oct. 2006)



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Can you think of a time when someone came into your life —or did something for you— when you realized, "God sent this person to help me"?

GOSPEL TRUTH

When you
serve others,
you strengthen
both their faith
and your own.





First, to the newly called: Confidence depends on your seeing the call for what it is. **Your call to serve is not from human beings.** It is a trust from God. And the service is not simply to perform a task. (Henry B. Eyring, "Watch Over and Strengthen," April 2000)



Whatever name it has, every call is an opportunity and an obligation to watch over and strengthen the children of our Heavenly Father. The Savior's work is to bring to pass their immortality and eternal life (see Moses 1:39). **He called us to serve others so that we could strengthen our own faith as well as theirs.** He knows that by serving Him we will come to know Him. (Henry B. Eyring, "Watch Over and Strengthen," April 2000)



LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

How does serving someone else strengthen our own faith as well as theirs, and that by serving Him we will come to know Him?



TO DO

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

Our Savior gave Himself in unselfish service. He taught that each of us should follow Him by denying ourselves of selfish interests in order to serve others. "If any man will come after me [He said], let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it" (Matthew 16:24–25; see also Matthew 10:39). (Dallin H. Oaks, "Unselfish Service," April 2009).

WEEK 9 CHALLENGE

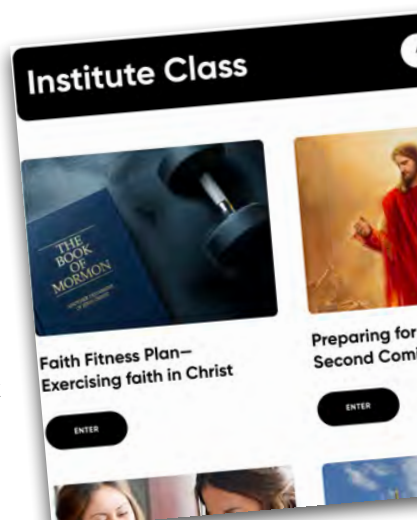


Will you deliberately look for someone you can serve—not simply because they need your help, but because you see Christ in them? And when you serve them, will you pause and recognize that you are not only helping that person—you are serving the Savior Himself?

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 - Preparing for the Second Coming
 - Understanding your endowment
 - Principles of personal revelation
 - Avoiding a faith crisis
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READINGS



- Thomas S. Monson, "The Bishop—Center Stage in Welfare," Oct. 1980
- Dallin H. Oaks, "Unselfish Service," April 2009
- Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Lift Where You Stand," Oct. 2008
- Carlos H. Amado, "Service, a Divine Quality," April 2008
- Henry B. Eyring, "Watch Over and Strengthen," April 2000
- David S. Baxter, "Faith, Service, Constancy," Oct. 2006



NEXT CLASS: OCT. 22

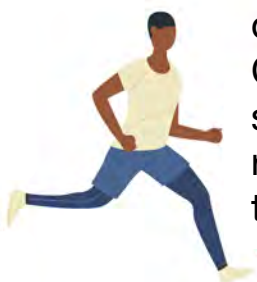
Spiritual Discipline

In Lesson 10, we'll talk about obeying the commandments. Why does following God's "training laws" build your faith? How do the commandments unlock spiritual power?

FAITH FITNESS **CLASS REVIEWS**



Faith Fitness Basics



Will you exercise faith by moving forward and taking righteous action without a perfect knowledge of the outcome, trusting in Jesus Christ, hoping for things not seen but true and good, and remaining strong and faithful through the trials of life?



Master Trainer

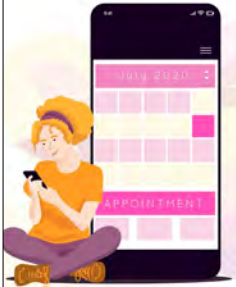


Will you identify one fear, burden, temptation, habit, or unanswered question that you have been carrying? Will you consciously place it in the Savior's hands and act in faith according to His teachings?

LESSON

03

Faith Training Plan

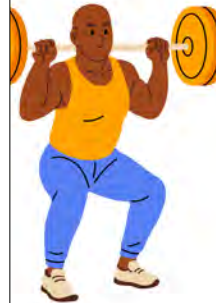


Will you use the “faith formula” in Alma 32, choose a gospel topic where you would like to strengthen your faith and follow the five steps: PREPARE your heart; PRACTICE faith; PLANT a seed; PROVIDE nutrition; PROCURE the results?

LESSON

04

Resistance Training



When adversity comes, will you choose faith in Jesus Christ instead of abandoning hope and giving in to despair? Will you build a “reservoir of faith” so you can withstand anything and everything that comes your way?

LESSON

05

Faith Training Manual

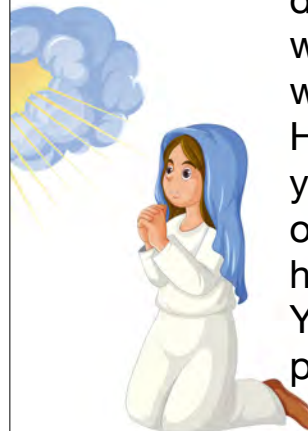


When you want to strengthen your faith in Jesus Christ or when you feel your faith is weakening, will you turn to the scriptures and words of the prophets and apostles for answers and liken those holy words to your situation?

LESSON

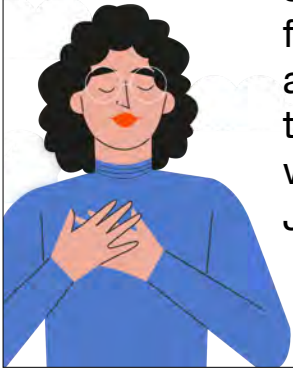
06

Praying to your Coach



Will you talk to your Coach every day? Will you tell Him honestly where your faith is strong and where it is weak? Will you ask Him to strengthen your faith? Will you listen—and be willing to act on what He tells you? (You don't have to have great faith to start. You just have to be willing to pray with the faith you have.)

Divine Answers



Will you listen to the still, small voice, learn to recognize how it speaks to your mind and heart, follow its guidance one step at a time, and act on the good it teaches you—knowing that it will strengthen your faith in Jesus Christ?

Building Others



(1) Will you actively look for opportunities to build the faith of others? (2) Will you refuse to allow others—whether intentional or accidental—to weaken your testimony or drive you away from the Church? (3) Will you build your testimony firmly on Jesus Christ, rather than other members or leaders?

Serve others in faith



Will you deliberately look for someone you can serve—not simply because they need your help, but because you see Christ in them? And when you serve them, will you pause and recognize that you are not only helping that person—you are serving the Savior Himself?