



**Next Steps - Foundations**



# A LIFE OF SERVICE

*living like Jesus*

[www.c3churchgoulburn.com](http://www.c3churchgoulburn.com)

## Welcome

Welcome to [Next Steps - Walking the Discipleship Pathway](#).

We are so glad you are here. Whether you have just made a decision to follow Jesus, or you have been a Christian for a while and want to grow deeper in your faith, this pathway has been designed with you in mind.

At C3 Church Goulburn, we believe that following Jesus is the greatest adventure life has to offer.

Yours in Christ  
Ps Ken & Fiona Hayward & the team

## How to Use This Booklet

This booklet is yours to work through at your own pace. There is no rush.

You can:

- Read through it on your own and reflect personally.
- Work through it with a leader or mentor.
- Do a bit of both — read ahead, then chat it through

Each section includes some teaching, key bible passages to look up, reflection questions and space to journal your thoughts.

Don't skip the writing spaces — sometimes the most important discoveries happen when we put pen to paper.

When you have finished this booklet, speak with a leader about your next step.

## Why Do We Serve?

Before we explore what it means to serve, it's worth pausing to understand what the Bible actually means by the word. The New Testament was written in Greek, and there are several different Greek words used for serving — and together they paint a remarkably rich picture:

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|-------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <b>Diakoneo</b>   | Practical, hands-on service to others      |
| <b>Doulos</b>     | Devoted service — as a bondservant of love |
| <b>Leitourgeo</b> | often refers to acts of public service     |
| <b>Latreuo</b>    | service as an act of worship               |

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Serving is not just something Christians are supposed to do — it is something we are designed and called to do. It flows naturally from a heart that has been transformed by the grace of God. When we truly understand what Jesus has done for us, serving others becomes not a burden but a joy — not an obligation but a privilege.

But don't take our word for it — let's see what scripture says:



### Read Ephesians 2:10

† *What does this verse tell us about why God created us?*

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### Read Mark 10:43-45

† *What did Jesus say about the nature of greatness in God's kingdom?*

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### Read Colossians 3:23-24

† *Who does Paul say we are ultimately serving when we serve others?*

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### Read Romans 12:1

† *How does Paul describe offering ourselves in service to God?*

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## What We Discover

From these four scriptures we discover something remarkable — serving is not an add-on to the Christian life. It is central to it. We were created for it, called to it, modelled in it by Jesus Himself, and when we do it wholeheartedly it becomes an act of worship.

Serving is not what we do to earn God's favour — we already have His favour through Jesus. Serving is our grateful response to everything He has already done for us.

## Jesus The Ultimate Servant

If we want to know what serving looks like in practice, we don't need to look any further than Jesus. He didn't just teach about serving — He lived it in every interaction, every miracle, every moment of His ministry. He was not a distant, untouchable deity — He was God in the flesh, getting His hands dirty, touching the untouchable, and giving Himself completely for others. In fact Jesus described His entire mission in terms of service:

### Mark 10:45

*"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Let's look at some of the moments where Jesus modelled servant leadership for us:

## The Towel and the Basin



**Read John 13:1-17**

† *What did Jesus do for His disciples, and what did He say this meant for how we should treat one another?*

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In the culture of the first century, washing feet was the task of the lowest servant in the household. Yet Jesus — knowing that He was Lord of all, that all authority had been given to Him — took off His outer garment, wrapped a towel around His waist, and washed His disciples' feet one by one.

This is one of the most profound moments in all of scripture. Jesus didn't just talk about humility — He demonstrated it in the most tangible, practical way possible. And then He said — go and do likewise.

## Compassion in Action



**Read Matthew 14:14**

† *What moved Jesus to serve the crowd, and what did that service look like?*

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Over and over in the gospels we see Jesus moved by compassion — a word that in the original Greek means to be moved in one's innermost being. It wasn't just sympathy from a distance. It was a deep, visceral response to human need that always moved Him to action. He saw the sick and He healed them. He saw the hungry and He fed them. He saw the outcast and He welcomed them.

## Touching the Untouchable



**Read Mark 1:40-42**

† *What is significant about the way Jesus healed the man with leprosy?*

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## Following His Example

Jesus didn't leave us without direction. He gave us the clearest possible instruction:

### **Mark 10:43-44**

*"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all."*

In God's kingdom the measure of greatness is not power, position or prestige — it is service. And the model for that service is Jesus Himself.

## Serving in the Local Church

The local church is not a spectator sport. It is a living, breathing community of people who are each called to play an active part in building something together. The Bible describes the church as a body — and in a healthy body every part has a function, every part matters, and every part contributes to the whole.

### 1 Corinthians 12:12

*"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ."*



#### Read 1 Corinthians 12:14-20

† What does this passage tell us about the body of Christ operates?

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## You Are Needed

One of the greatest lies the enemy tells people is that their contribution doesn't matter — that they're not talented enough, experienced enough, or significant enough to make a difference. But scripture tells us something completely different:.



#### Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-22

† What does Paul say about the parts of the body that seem weaker or less important?

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## Serving Together

The early church was marked by radical generosity and practical service to one another:



**Read Acts 2:44-45 and Acts 4:32**

† *What did serving one another look like in the early church?*

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This was not just an organisational strategy — it was a supernatural expression of love that caused the whole community to take notice. When the church serves well internally, it becomes a powerful witness to the world around it..

## Finding Your Place

At C3 Church Goulburn there are many ways to serve within our local church community. Whether it's:

- Welcoming — being the first face people see on a Sunday
- Worship — using musical gifts to lead people into God's presence
- Technical — running sound, lighting or media
- Hospitality — making people feel at home
- Prayer — interceding for the church and community
- Administration — keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes
- and much more....

Every role matters. Every act of service counts. And there is a place for you.

## Serving the Wider Community

The church was never meant to exist solely for itself. Jesus didn't just serve His disciples — He served everyone He encountered. The sick, the poor, the outcast, the lonely, the forgotten. And He calls us to do the same.

### Matthew 5:14-16

*"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*



### Read Luke 10:25-37

† How does Jesus define who our neighbour is, and what does serving our neighbour look like?

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This is one of the most confronting passages in all of scripture. Jesus identifies Himself personally with the hungry, the stranger, the sick and the prisoner. When we serve the vulnerable and marginalised in our community — we are serving Jesus Himself.

## Serving the City of Goulburn

At C3 Church Goulburn we have a heart for our city. Goulburn is not just where we meet — it is our mission field. We believe that as we grow as a congregation, God will open doors for us to serve our community in increasingly significant ways.

For now, here are some practical ways you can serve the wider Goulburn community as an individual:

- **Be a good neighbour** — look out for those around you
- **Volunteer** — get involved in existing community organisations.
- **Show hospitality** — open your home to others
- **Give generously** — help those in need
- **Pray** - intercede regularly for the city of Goulburn
- **Visit** - visit the sick in hospital
- **Visit** - the prisoner in jail. *(We are currently looking into the possibility of partnering with a local prison fellowship group.)*



**Read Jeremiah 29:7**

† What does God tell His people to do for the city they find themselves in, and how does this apply to us in Goulburn?

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## A Vision for the Future

We believe that C3 Church Goulburn is called to make a tangible difference in this city — not just on Sundays but every day of the week. As we grow together in faith and in number, we are developing new ways to serve our community collectively.

## Finding Your Place to Serve

One of the most exciting discoveries in the Christian life is finding out where you fit — where your unique combination of gifts, talents and passions intersects with the needs around you. This is not always a dramatic moment of revelation. Sometimes it's as simple as seeing a need and saying yes.

### Four Questions to Help You Find Your Place

- **What has God gifted you with?**

The Holy Spirit distributes gifts to every believer for the common good of the church (1 Cor. 12:7). These gifts - whether teaching, prophecy, healing, administration, giving, encouragement or others - are given not for our own benefit but to build up the body of Christ.



***Read Romans 12:6-8***

*List the gifts mentioned here. Which of these do you recognise in yourself?*

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- **What are you naturally good at?**

God doesn't waste anything — including your natural talents and abilities. Your ability to organise, create, communicate, build, cook, lead or care for others — these are all valid and valuable contributions to the work of the Kingdom.

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- **Where is there a need you can fill?**

Sometimes the most important question is the simplest one — **what needs doing**, and can I do it?

The early church didn't wait for a spiritual gifts assessment before they started serving. They saw needs and they met them. They showed up. They gave what they had.

If you're not sure where to start — just start somewhere. Volunteer for something. Say yes to a need. Turn up consistently. You may be surprised where God takes you from there.



**Read Acts 6:1-7**

*How did the early church identify a need and find people to fill it? What was the result of meeting that need?*

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## Your Next Step

If you're ready to find your place to serve at C3 Church Goulburn, we'd love to help you take that next step. Speak to your pastor or a church leader — we will help you find where you fit and connect you with opportunities to serve both within our church family and in the wider Goulburn community.

### **Ephesians 2:10**

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

## Reflect and Respond

Take some time to work through these questions honestly. There are no right or wrong answers — this is between you and God.

**1. Read *John 13:14-15* .**

Jesus said "I have set you an example." In what specific area of your life do you most need to follow Jesus' example of servant leadership?

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**2.** Looking back over this booklet, what has most challenged or inspired you about the call to serve?

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**3.** Write down where you think God might be calling you to serve.

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**4. Read *Galatians 5:13***

What is the motivation Paul gives for serving one another?

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**5.** What is one specific commitment you are willing to make this week to begin serving - either in the church or in the community?

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## What's Next?

Serving is not a one-time decision — it is a lifelong journey of growing, giving and becoming more like Jesus. Here is what we encourage you to do now:

### 1. Take the step

Don't wait until you feel ready. Speak to your pastor or a church leader this week and let them know you want to get involved in serving. The best time to start is now.

### 2. Keep coming to church

Community is essential to a life of service. We grow best together — encouraging one another, sharpening one another, and serving alongside one another.

### 3. Keep reading the Bible

The more we know Jesus, the more we naturally become like Him — and Jesus was the ultimate servant. Let His Word shape your heart and your habits.

### 4. Keep praying

Ask God regularly to open your eyes to needs around you and to give you a heart of compassion for the people He places in your path.

#### **Colossians 3:17**

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."*

## Continue Your Journey

Scan the QR code to explore more **Next Steps** resources online



*A Christ-Centred Community*

## C3 Church Goulburn

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