



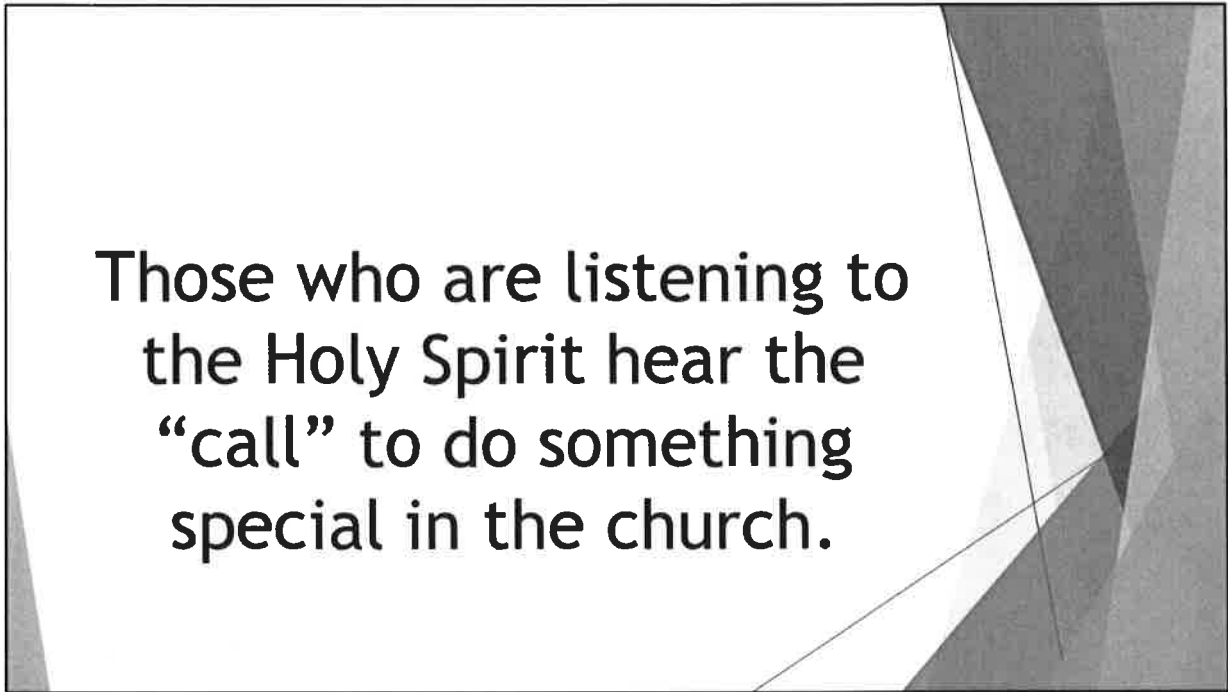
HIDDEN ANGELS
Celebrate Volunteers!

John 13:1-17
August 27, 2017

In thanksgiving and gratitude, today we reflect on the value of the volunteers who have helped to enrich the lives of our church



- Volunteering at Calvin are brothers and sisters who use their talents to aid the church and fulfill the needs with service and actions rather than money.



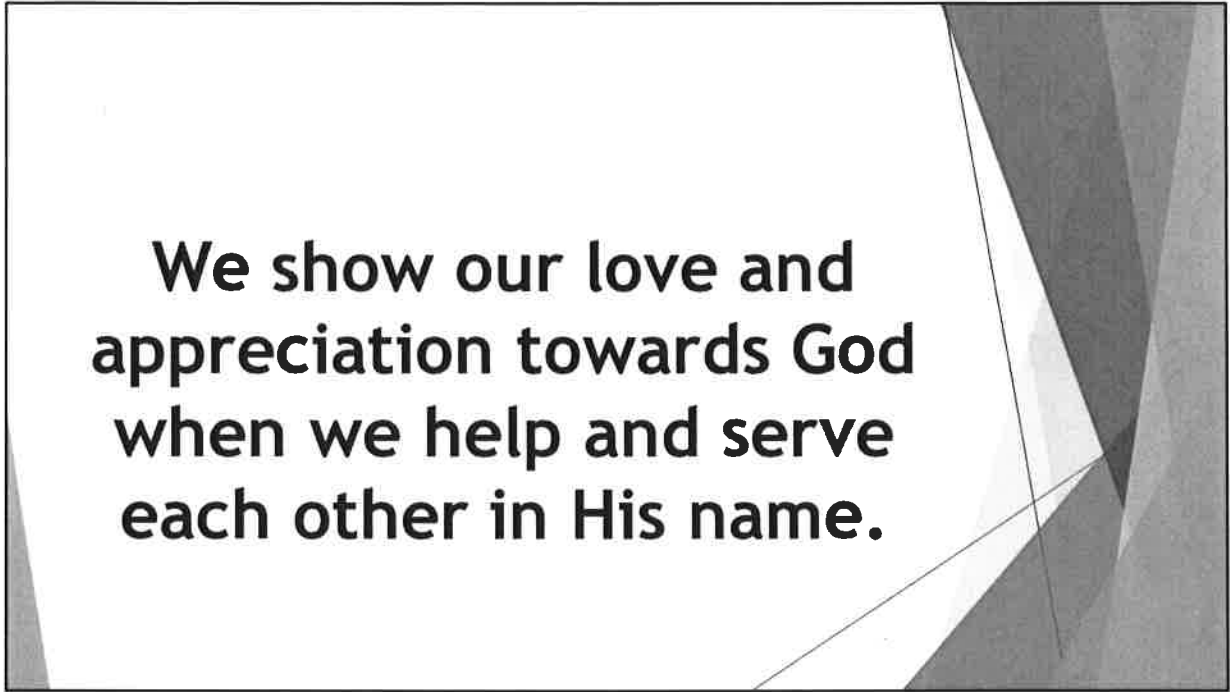
Those who are listening to
the Holy Spirit hear the
“call” to do something
special in the church.

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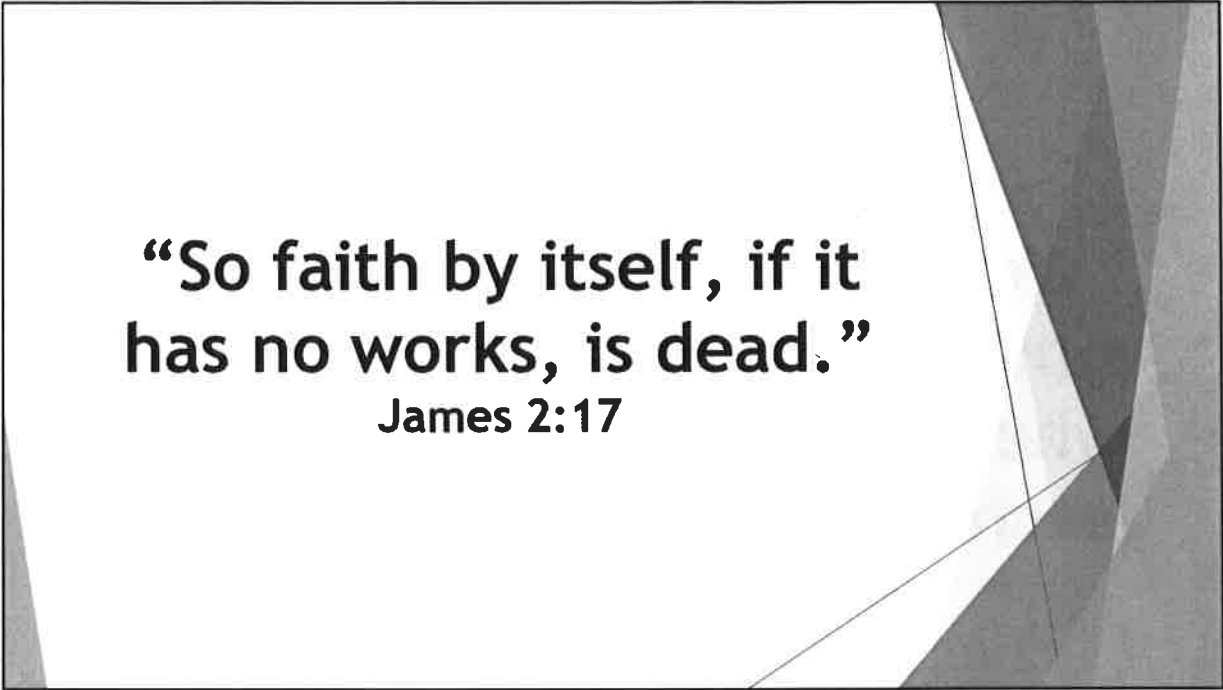
“For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.” John 13:15

Our Lord said: “ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.” John 13:15

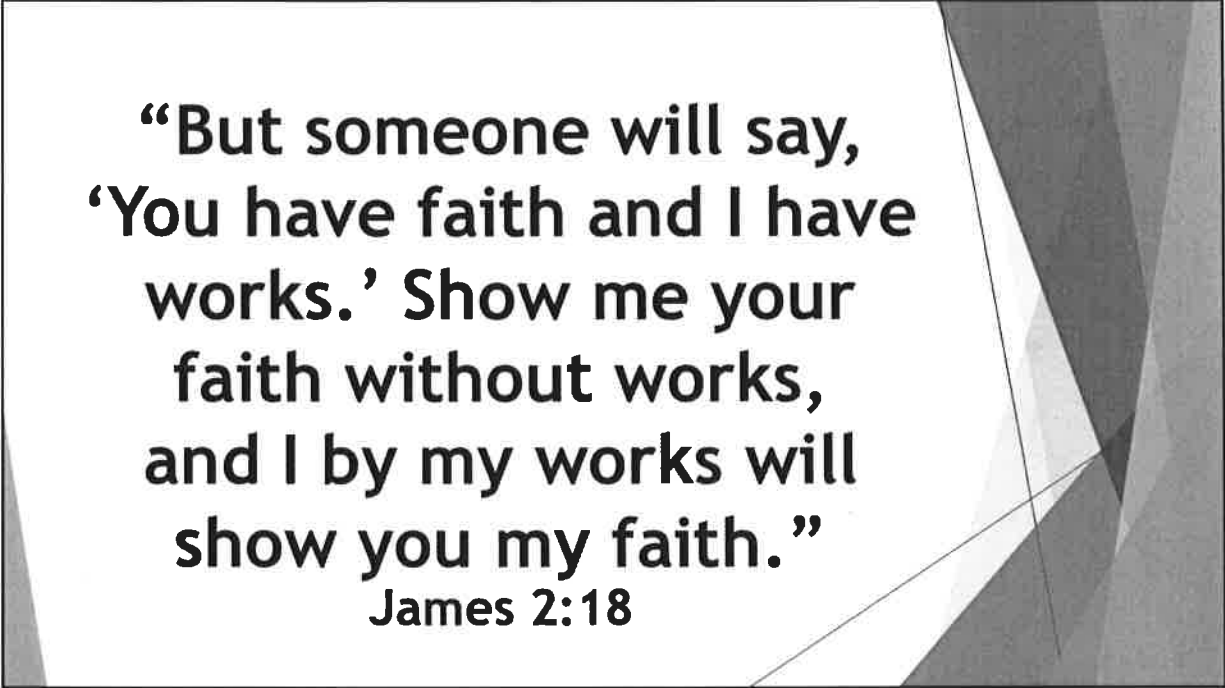
- Our Lord Jesus Christ showed us how He served.
- If we love Him, we have to offer our lives for His glory.



We show our love and appreciation towards God when we help and serve each other in His name.



**“So faith by itself, if it
has no works, is dead.”**
James 2:17



**“But someone will say,
‘You have faith and I have
works.’ Show me your
faith without works,
and I by my works will
show you my faith.”**

James 2:18

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1.

**As you commit yourself to
serve, you fulfill Gods
purpose for your life.**

I want to help you to see three results of serving as a volunteer at Calvin.

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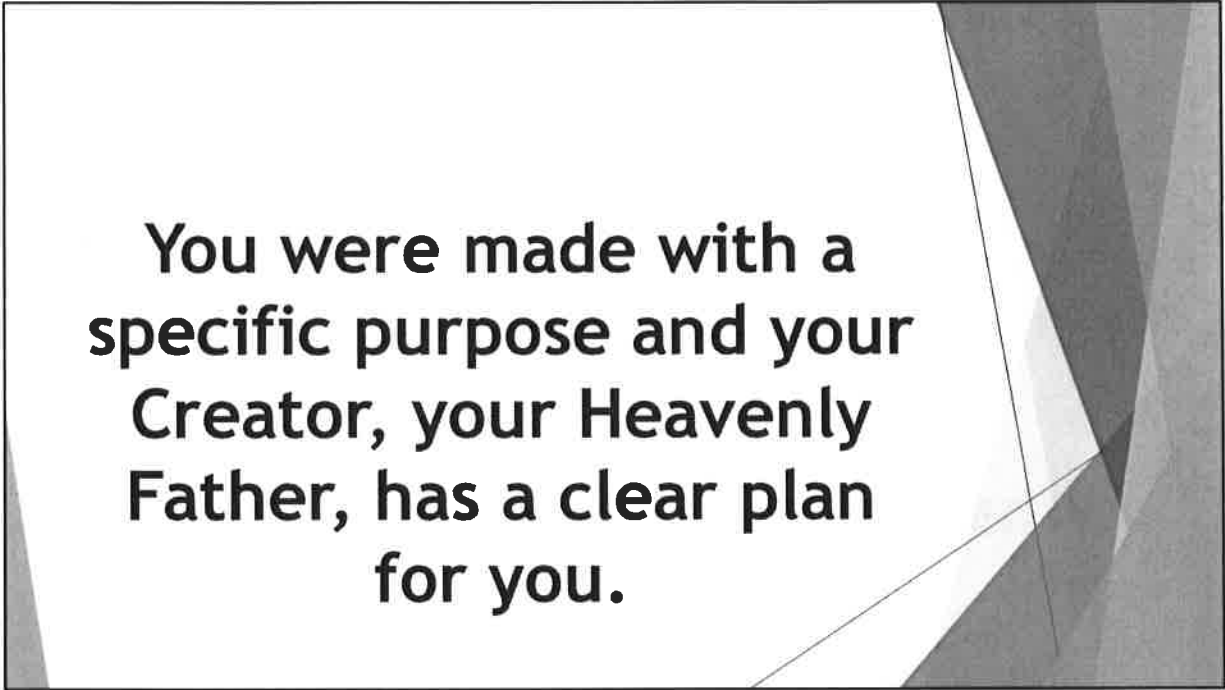
Why am I here?

Why am I alive?

**What is the purpose of
my life?**

I was talking to many people, younger or elderly people, who have no purpose of life.

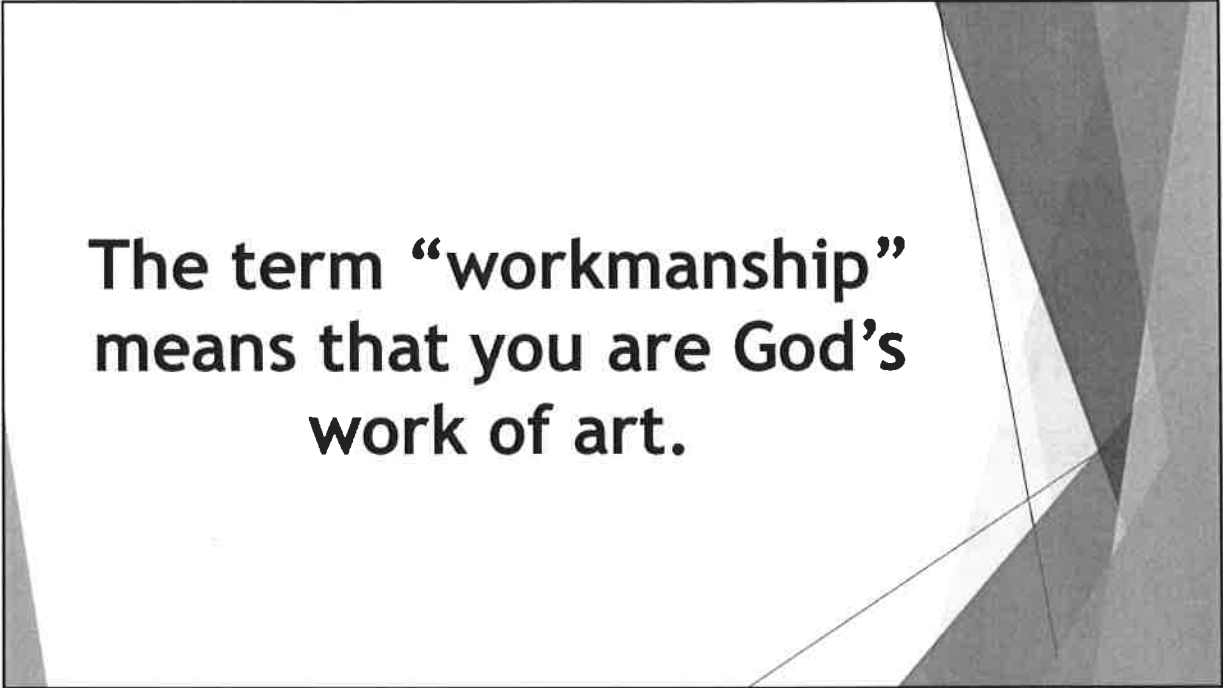
- They were asking: **Why am I here? Why am I alive? What is the purpose of my life?**
- Their lives seem empty, without any joy or goals.
- Many newly retired people crash because they don't know what to do with their lives.
- What do you think? Why did God create you?



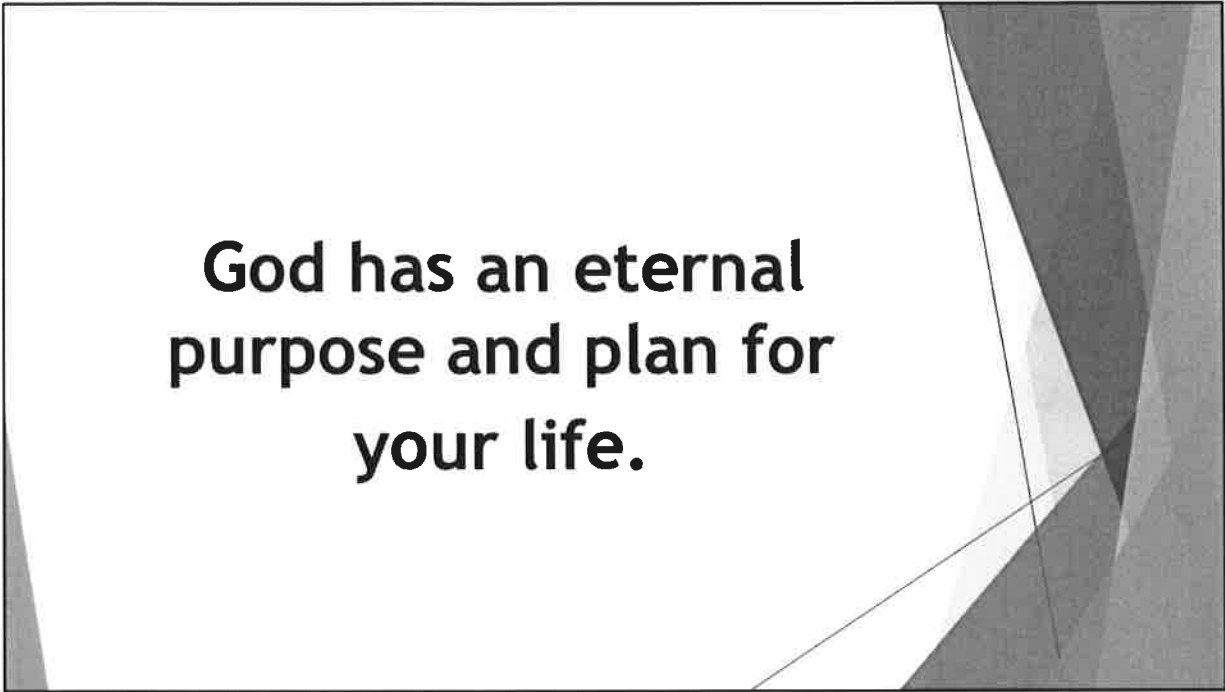
**You were made with a
specific purpose and your
Creator, your Heavenly
Father, has a clear plan
for you.**

God gives you a special purpose of life. “For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:10



**The term “workmanship”
means that you are God’s
work of art.**



**God has an eternal
purpose and plan for
your life.**

He did not create you just to be, but to do something in you and then through you in this world.

DISCUSSION

**Do you have a sense of
God's purpose for your
life?**

DISCUSSION

How are you using your spiritual gifts, heart and passions, abilities, personality, and experiences to worship God?

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**If you know who you are,
you know what you have
to do.**

We are people of God. We are calling ourselves children of God.

If you know who you are, you know what you have to do.

As God's beloved children, we all have to know what our responsibilities
are.



**“Faith is active along
with his works”**

James 2:22

- The children of God do not just exist, but they do something for the glory of God by serving others.

*

**We worship,
love and
serve.**

Our Christian mission statement could be summarized in a few words: **we worship, love and serve.**

We are worshipping here because we confess that we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ, who so loved us that he gave His own life to create for us a more comfortable life on this earth and total comfort in heaven.

Because, even today, our Lord gives and serves, our call is to give and serve as His hidden angels.

*

**We worship,
love and serve
to spread God's love
with others,
and to attract people to
our Lord.**

We worship, love and serve to spread God's love with others and to attract people to our Lord.

This is our main responsibility.

This has to be the goal of a faithful Christian.

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Our ministry here at Calvin could never happen without the faithful service of so many people.

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Those who teach,
those who are in the nursery,
those who prepared food for our children during the VBS,
those who set up coffee, those who serve in committees,
those who are practicing and sing regularly with the choir, and
those who lead worship.

All of the ministry they do is extremely important.

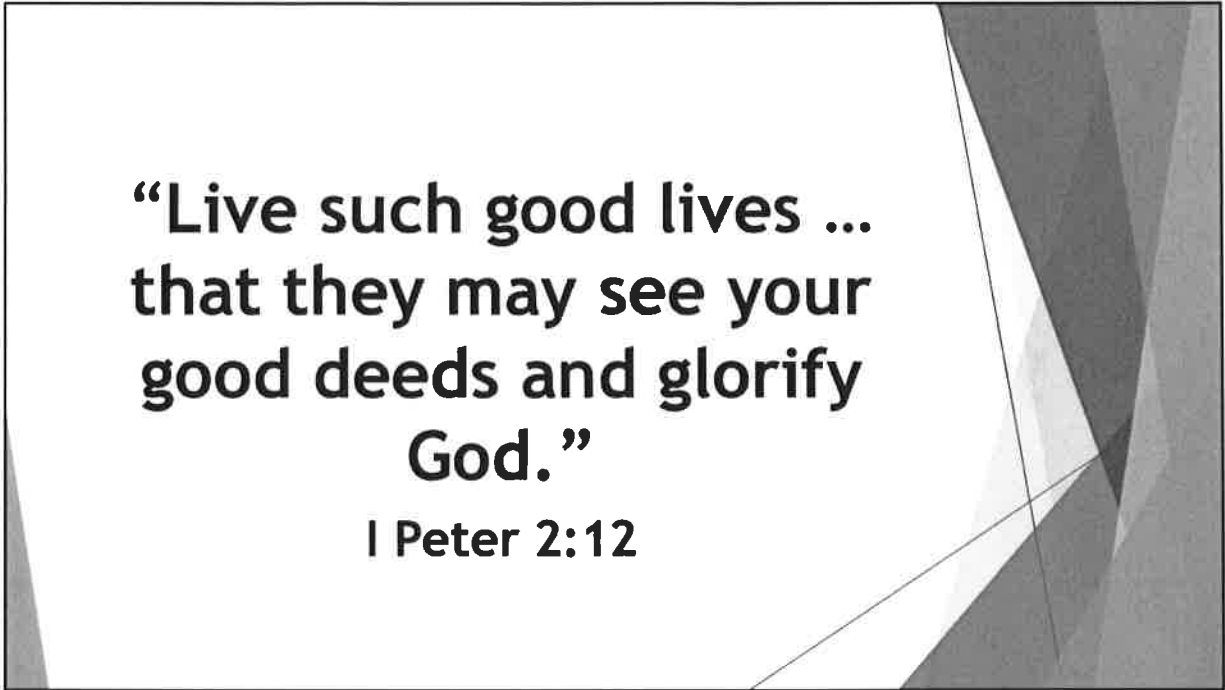
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2.

**As you serve, you reflect
God's glory.**

As you serve you reflect God's glory.

As we serve others, they can have a picture of our heavenly Father.

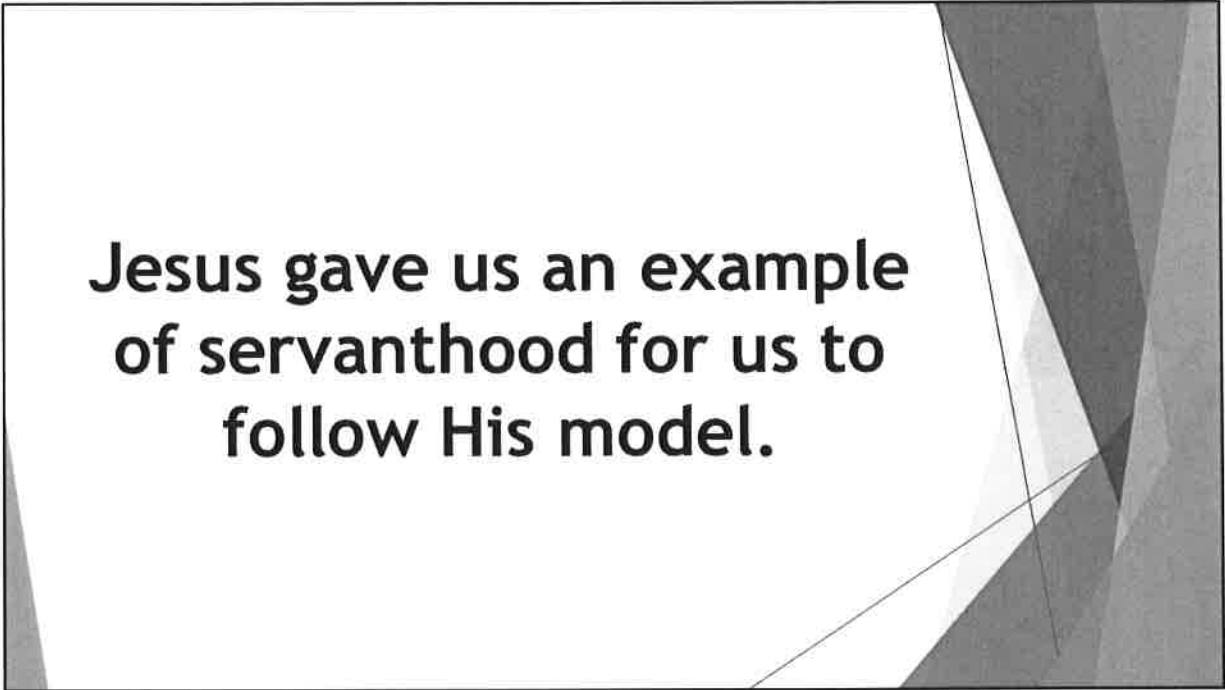


**“Live such good lives ...
that they may see your
good deeds and glorify
God.”**

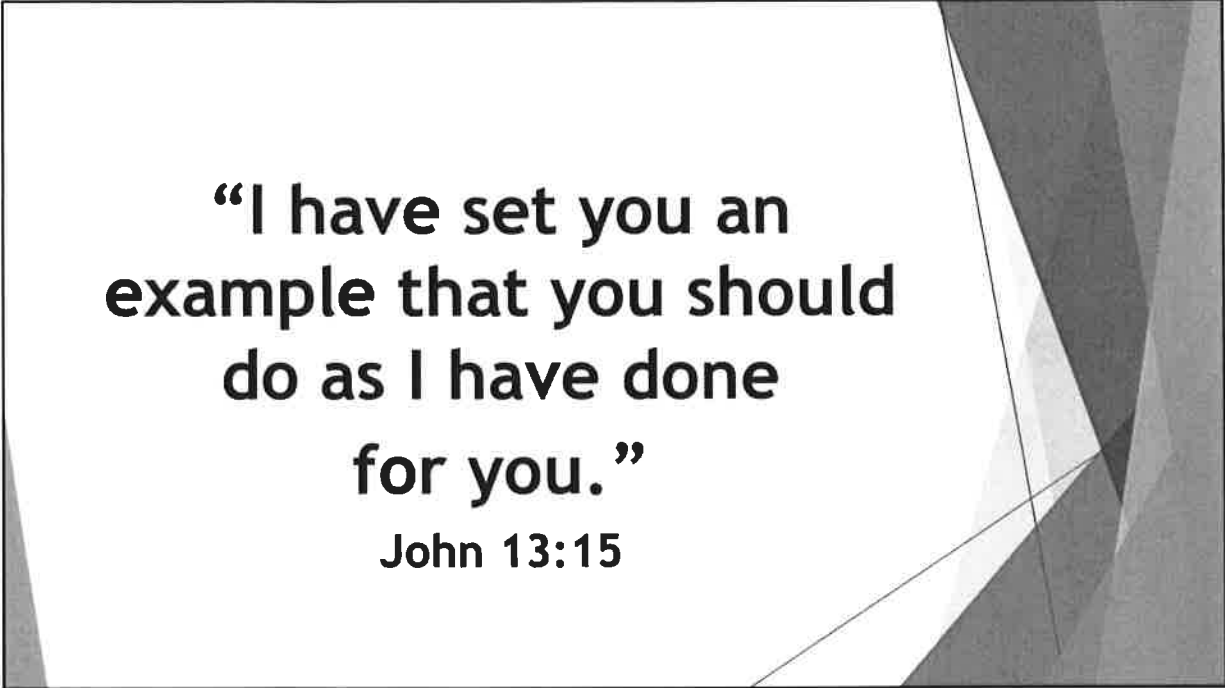
1 Peter 2:12



**Our actions reflect the
belief of our hearts.**

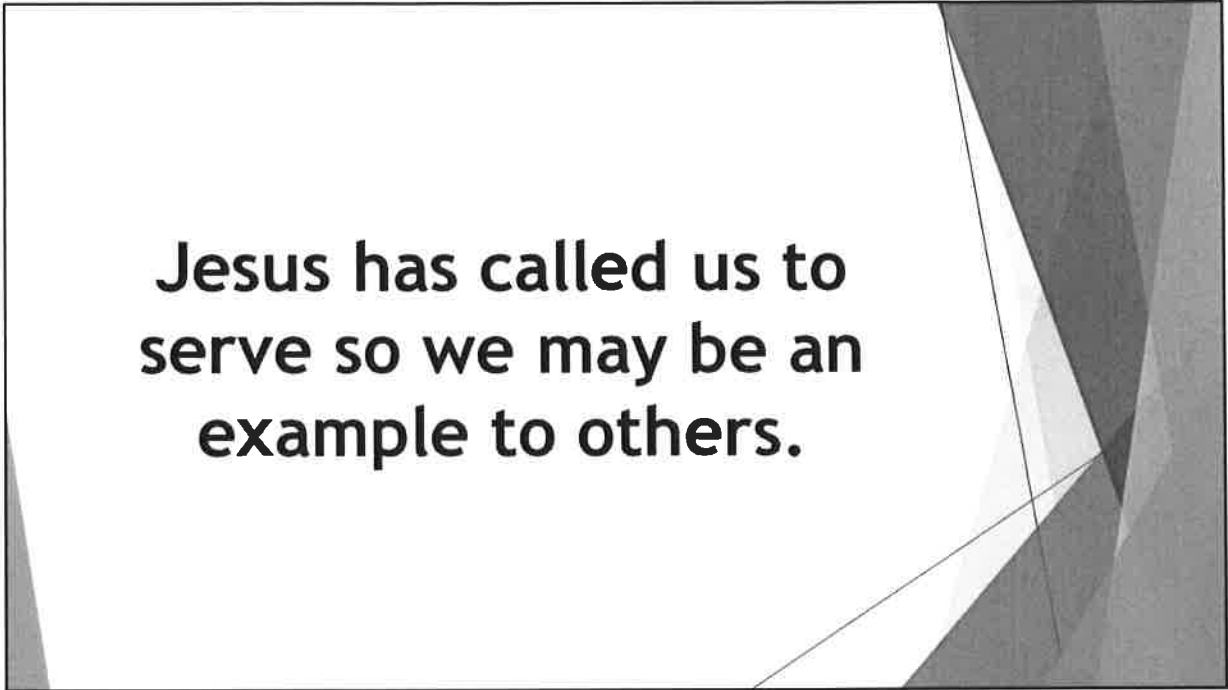


**Jesus gave us an example
of servanthood for us to
follow His model.**



**“I have set you an
example that you should
do as I have done
for you.”**

John 13:15

A rectangular frame with a thin black border. The background is white on the left and transitions into a dark gray, geometric, low-poly design on the right. The text is centered in the white area.

**Jesus has called us to
serve so we may be an
example to others.**

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Our covenant, in being a member at Calvin, is a covenant to serve.

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Those who are actively involved in a ministry of this church body, to serve in helping others, know the love of Jesus and share the love of Jesus.

This is their ministry.

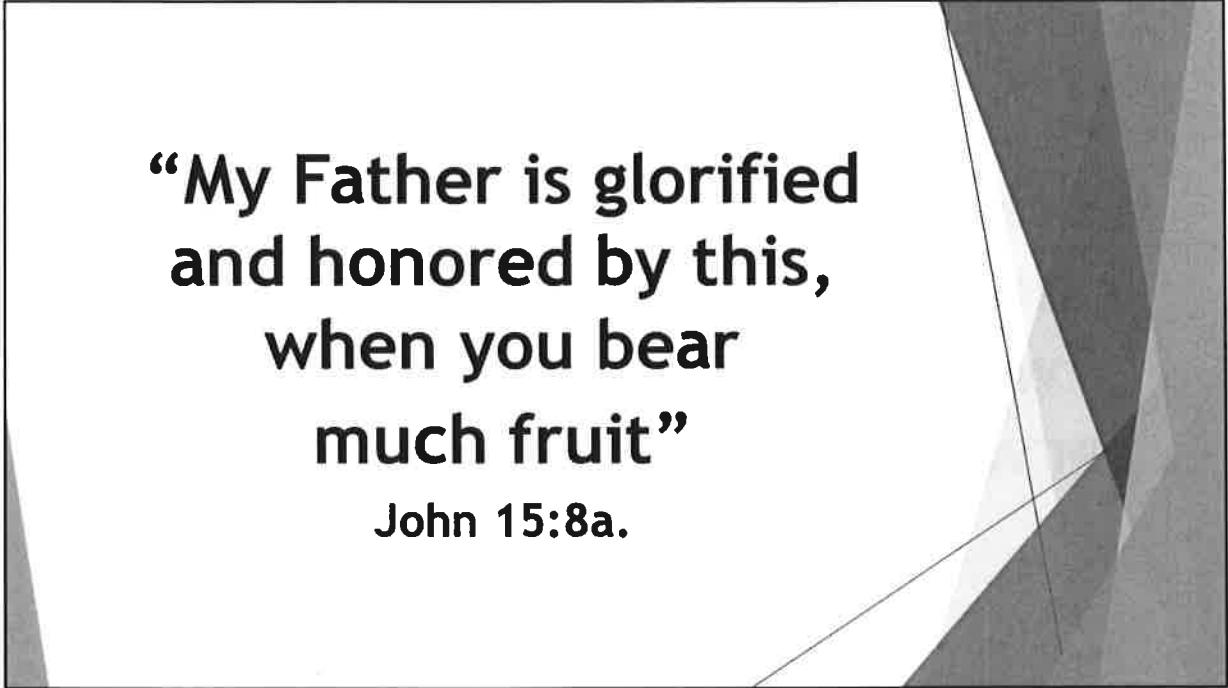
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**They “prepare God’s
people for works of
service, so that the body
of Christ may
be built up.”**

Ephesians 4:11-12

**They “prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of
Christ may be built up.” Ephesians 4:11-12**

It is the people of the body who make ministry happen.



**“My Father is glorified
and honored by this,
when you bear
much fruit”**

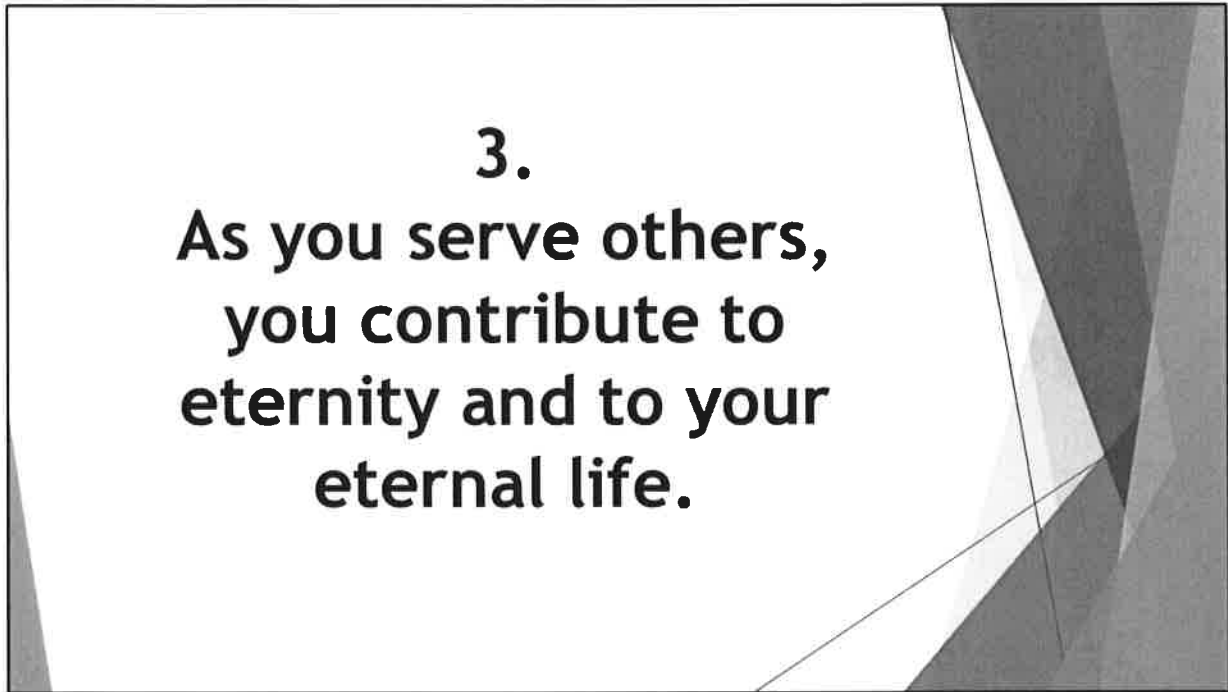
John 15:8a.

I find it very interesting that, in the Bible, the Greek word JOY and the word GIFT come from the same word, which is GRACE.

- Please notice that when you use your spiritual gifts, it brings joy to God, and it brings joy to you.
- It is an awesome joy to serve the Lord with the gifts He gave us.
- Those who love our Lord know that there's no feeling in the world like doing something for our Heavenly Father's glory.
- If you haven't ever felt that, I am encouraging you to discover and develop the spiritual gifts that are in you so you can enjoy your life and bring glory to God.

REFLECTION

Take a moment and describe a time in your life when you were using your gifts to serve others. What was that like?



3. As you serve others, you contribute to eternity and to your eternal life.

When you serve and show the love of Jesus Christ, God's Spirit can influence those whom you serve to long towards heaven.

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**To serve with love can be
your opportunity of a
lifetime.**

To serve with love can be your opportunity of a lifetime.

Please notice that for your faithfulness after your life time, God offers you an opportunity to live with Him forever.

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**Thank you for
all your ministry.**

Nobody is talented or gifted at everything, but you can use what God gave you.

- If you are not involved, and you would like to be involved in our ministry here at Calvin, please come and see me. Together we will ask the Lord to show you what kind of gifts He gave you, how and where you could serve.

- Please do not say you cannot serve because of your weakness, or age, or whatever excuses you want to make.

This is the word of the Lord.

**The Lord says:
“listen, so that you may
live.”**

Isaiah 55:3



