



Let's Talk CHANGE DEVOTIONALS

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EMPOWERED TO SERVE

Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery | May 24, 2017

Jesus came to earth to serve not be served. As followers of Christ we are to adopt this same mind set. The ultimate level of service He performed was dying on the cross. Before facing death Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane and asked the Father if there was another way to fulfill this task but realized as God's vessel the will of the Father had to supersede his own desire. Thus he concludes saying, "Nevertheless, not my will but Thy will be done." While we serve in God's kingdom times come when the task seems less to our liking and we wish there was another way to serve, but we must remember that the will of the Father takes precedence.

Every born again Christian is called to serve in the Kingdom with the intent to remember it's not about us. Our Lord has empowered us to serve to bless others lives as He would be unjust to expect us to do something we are not equipped to handle. God has given us what I call the four T's: Time, Talents, Treasure and Touch.

We must be willing to share our **time** with our family, church and community. Ephesians 5:16 tell us to redeem the time (capitalizing on every appropriate opportunity) because the days are evil. Time can't be collected. It must be used wisely as it cannot be recaptured, rewound or replaced.

God graciously gives all of us **talents**, skills and abilities to bless others lives. We should lavishly share them to enhance lives, change a situation, aiming to bring hope and transformation if possible. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 deals with gifts and reveals they are dispersed by the Holy Spirit to profit all.

We are not all on the same financial level but God has given us **treasure** (financial resources) to steward. Being stingy with money can hinder you no matter the size of your bank account. Be sure to tithe and give offerings to support your church. Share with those in need as directed by the Holy Ghost. The nature of God is to give and we should follow that same pattern. As you give, God will always keep you supplied.

There is power in our **touch**. Jesus was never reluctant to touch those he helped. In Matthew 19:13-14 Jesus wants to touch the children by putting His hands on them to pray for them. A hug can heal a broken heart, kind words can touch a lonely heart, and a warm smile can touch one's life and bring a spark to their day.

Our God empowers us to serve Him by serving others using time, talent, treasure and touch. Seek Him how to employ this in your daily walk so we make a marked difference in the world.

Residing in Los Angeles, CA, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles, is the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at MyBeAttitude.org, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures. For more information, CelebrateChange.org | Info@CelebrateChange.org | 310-436-6336 x214.

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