

groups.

— Notes | August 3, 2025

Hymns Series | Make a Difference

God didn't just create you to exist—He created you on purpose and *for* a purpose, and that purpose is meant to be bigger than yourself. You were made to live a life that makes a difference in the world and in the lives of the people around you. But here's the key: the order matters. We don't serve, love, or sacrifice to earn God's love—we do those things because we've already experienced it. We love because He first loved us. We serve because Jesus came to serve. We sacrifice because He sacrificed first. That truth is foundational: Knowing God starts when you realize "Jesus loves me." Making a difference starts when you help someone else realize, "Jesus loves you." And when that becomes real for you—His love, His purpose, His power—you begin to live with the kind of passion that leaves a legacy. One that matters not just for today, but for eternity.

Key Scripture | Matthew 25:29

"For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them."

Related Scriptures

— Matthew 25:14-29, John 3:16, Luke 19:10, Luke 15, Matthew 5:16, Revelation 20:11-12, II Corinthians 5:10, Matthew 16:27, Revelation 22:12

Icebreakers:

— Q: Can you remember a moment when someone made a real, lasting difference in your life?

Key Thoughts and Reflections:

I. What did you do with My Son Jesus?

Q: If God asked you today, “What did you do with My Son Jesus?”—how would you respond? Have you truly bowed your life to Him as both Savior and Lord, or have you simply been around Jesus without surrendering to Him?

Q: The Bible says your name is either in the Lamb’s Book of Life or you’re judged by your own “books” or “works.” What does this mean for believers?

Q: For those who follow Jesus, the second judgment is more like an awards ceremony. In what ways are you using the gifts, time, and influence God gave you to live for something bigger than yourself—and to make a difference that will echo in eternity?

II. What did you do with what I GAVE you?

Q: When you think about standing before Jesus—not to be judged for salvation, but to be rewarded for how you lived—what do you hope He says about the way you used what He gave you?

Q: Take inventory: your time, your talents, your personality, your home, your influence—how are you using those things right now? Are they pointing people toward Jesus or just making life more comfortable for yourself?

Q: What’s one area of your life—your job, your parenting, your friendships, your generosity—where you need to more clearly connect your actions to your faith in Jesus? What would it look like to start doing that this week?

III. What has God GIVEN you?

Q: How are you investing your TIME to make an eternal difference?

Q: How are you investing your TALENTS to make an eternal difference?

Q: How are you investing your TREASURE to make an eternal difference?

Get Practical

Take some intentional time this week to sit with God and run your life through three filters—your time, your talents, and your treasures. Ask Him to show you *how*, *where*, and *with whom* you can start making a real difference that will matter in eternity. Then, take a step. Sign up for Serve Day by texting “Serve Day” to 37748 and join us October 15–18 at Gas South Convention Center—we’ve got 5,000 spots open to help pack 1 million meals for people in need. Or talk to your Spiritual Formation Pastor and jump in to join a Daymaker Team—help serve new families, welcome guests, or simply hold a door or pour coffee on a Sunday. It’s not about doing something huge; it’s about doing something *simple* that points to Jesus. Sometimes making an eternal difference is as simple as giving up your seat at the 11am service... or opening your heart and home to lead a small group. What’s your next step?