

The Year of Sowing

Prayer Guide

Week 38

The Year of Sowing – As a servant – Serving In the Community

... praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:47 (NKJV)



Prayer Focus: It seems certain that there is much in this verse that is not said. The church after Pentecost did not spend all their time in the temple, or there would have been no opportunity to gain favor with “all the people.” Certainly the changed lives of those who were being saved had a huge impact upon the rest of the community. The church is called to be salt and light in this world. One of the ways that we can serve as salt and light is to demonstrate our heart of servanthood within our own communities. If the heart of a servant is to desire the best for others, this would include our cities, our neighborhoods, and our neighbors. Churches who have caught this vision of serving the community, find creative ways to demonstrate the love of God to their cities, and neighborhoods. Churches have volunteered in hospitals, and sent teams into poor neighborhoods to clean trash, repair and paint homes of the elderly. Give bottled water at busy intersections, give out school supplies to needy families with school age children, host special celebrations for senior citizens in the neighborhood with music, and food, send teams into the neighborhoods to pick up trash, pull weeds, and general clean up. All of these and many more are opportunities for believers to serve their communities. Ask God to show you what the needs are in your neighborhood. Gather servants from your church and serve without fanfare, and if people ask you what you are doing, simply say, we are here to demonstrate the love of God for our neighborhood. God alone knows the power that such simple serving can have in the lives of those impacted and those who are watching. Believe and obey God in this area of serving and you will see what God can do to bring favor with all the people.

Day 1: Ask God to give you a vision of how you, and your church can serve your city and your neighborhoods

Day 2: Do you have fear of this kind of service? Ask the Lord to show you, and give you new courage.

Day 3: Confess any ways that the Lord might have shown you an area of service and you did not obey.

Day 4: Ask the Lord to show you ways that you can serve your neighborhood, and your neighbors.

Day 5: Pray that your church will have a vision for serving the community in creative ways throughout the year.

Day 6: Pray for other churches in your city would have a similar vision of serving the community.

Day 7: Pray for missionaries who serve on a daily basis the needs of their communities.