



Is the Servant Course for me?

This is a great question to ask before accepting an invitation to The Servant Course. Take time to reflect and pray about this before you decide – but not too much time!

The observations below will help you to reflect, and also inform you about the time commitment you will be making in joining The Servant Course.

How am I serving Jesus today?

When you answer this question, think about all aspects of your life, not just the church bits. Think about how you live as a Christian in your family, your community, in the street, at work, and in the church fellowship. We are called to be 'whole-life' disciples and not just part-time followers.

Which of the following statements best describes how you feel about your Christian service today in each of these areas? They are extreme caricatures, but you may feel some resonances!

Good

I feel fulfilled in my Christian service. I can see that I am being fruitful, and receive affirmation from those around me about what I am doing. Although it's challenging at times, and can be quite a sacrifice, I am just made for this. I feel called to do it, and I wouldn't want to give it up!

Unsure

I get this sense of uncertainty, I'm not sure what I should be doing for Jesus, or even if I should be doing anything! I'm not clear what my 'spiritual gifts' are, or what kind of person God has made me to be. So it's really difficult to work out what I'm called to. I'd love to know, because I do feel as if I want to give out something of the love Jesus has shown me.

Overwhelmed

I'm already at the limit! I just don't have any more time to give. I can't do the things I'm committed to do as well as I'd like. It's very frustrating. I find myself getting quite resentful at times, and sometimes I think I really ought to give something up – but I'd be letting people down who depend on me. It's like I'm trapped, so the last thing I want is to be made to feel guilty about what else I'm not doing!

So is it for me?

If you feel in the 'good' space, then The Servant Course is probably not for you – unless your call includes discipling or mentoring others – in which case it could be valuable to help your ministry!

If you feel 'unsure' or 'overwhelmed', the servant course will definitely help you. It helps you understand the shape God has made you to be, and so the nature of the roles he has called you to do. This will help you shed activities that simply don't fit you or your calling, and to find fulfilling and fruitful service. It could be one of the best investments in time you make as a Christian.

Talking of time, there are four steps to the Servant Course – then acting on your discoveries!

1. Preparation (Between 1 and 2 hours over a couple weeks – with input from two people who know you)
2. The course (A Friday evening and Saturday till tea time)
3. Reflection (Between 1 and 2 hours over a couple of weeks)
4. Guidance meeting (About an hour one-to-one with a guide)