

1 Corinthians 3:9 (MSG)

What makes them worth doing is the God we are serving. You happen to be God's field in which we are working. Or, to put it another way, you are God's house.

Would you go into your parent's home and invite them to enter in to their own home? Kind of like, "*Hi mom and dad, welcome to your house, come on in a join us.*" I know that sounds crazy, because as an adult, it's your parent's home and we all have our own homes. Yet we can still go to their home, and if you grew up in that home, it still feels like your home to. But you would never go to their home and invite them into their own house.

So why do we do that with God's House, the church building? We shouldn't be going into the church and inviting God into His own house (the church building), but rather we should walk in, thanking God for inviting us to enter into His home. Now we know that God dwells in Heaven and that a church building can not contain the awesomeness of God, and even scripture says.

† **Isaiah 66:1** *Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is My throne, And earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest?"*

† **1 Kings 8:27** *But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!*

Yet the church building belongs to the Lord, just like the earth is the Lord's. God created it and bought it back with the blood of His Son Jesus Christ. Yet God has given us these church buildings, that God's Spirit dwells in, and allows us to enter in to His presence, to hear from Him with His word being taught, but also so that we can worship Him in songs together as a family from our hearts.

But something else to think about in regards to being in the church and growing up in our parents home. Didn't we all have chores to do, which we all did to help maintain the home? Sure, our parents could have done all the work, yet they wanted to teach us the importance of taking care of a home and one another (Parents and brothers and sisters) in the home. Therefore, God has appointed task for us ALL to do in the church. There is no such thing as a spoiled child in God's house, we are all, as His children, appointed duties in the house of God (the church).

† **1 Corinthians 12:28-31** *And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.*

Notice that God has appointed everyone in the church certain tasks or jobs to do, and we sometimes call them "ministries". But regardless what you want to call them, we are all to take part in the things of the house of God. Once again, no one, I repeat, NO ONE is exempt from

serving. Yet so many do not do, and why? Well if you think of a child who does not do, or does not want to do his or her chores, it's simply because they choose to be disobedient to their parents, and they care only for themselves and not others, not even their own family. Yes, you can say ouch right there, because when you decide you are not going to be a part of, and contribute (not just financially) to the house of God, you are choosing to be disobedient to the Lord.

So, growing up as children, there were those who took out the trash, those who did the dishes, those who vacuumed, those who cleaned the bathroom, all cleaned their own room, those who mowed the lawn, etc... So are we all appointed tasks in the house of the Lord, the church building. So as the Lord invites us in, let us thank Him for inviting us into His home, but also take part in the maintaining and upkeep of God's House and the people that are in it, our spiritual brothers and sisters.

† **Psalm 84:10** *For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

† **1 Chronicles 23:28-29 (MSG)** *From now on the assigned work of the Levites was to assist Aaron's sons in the work of worship in GOD's house: maintain courtyards and closets, keep the furniture and utensils of worship clean, take care of any extra work needed in the work of worship, and provide bread for the table and flour for the Meal Offerings and the unraised wafers—all baking and mixing, all measuring and weighing.*