

Series: 4Ward on the Journey
Serving Others – In Cooperation We *Participate*
Text: 2 Timothy 4:6-10 (AM 1/21/18)

We are most like Jesus when we serve. We discover His fulfillment and joy when we minister to others. The spiritual vitality and health of the local and universal Church depends upon members serving. We know, at Canaan, that Loving God, and Sharing Life prepares us to *Serve Others*. Scripture is replete with examples of men and women who served the Lord. Next to Jesus, the Apostle Paul sets the bar for Christian servanthood. In today's text, Paul's valedictory speech reveals the steps for successful ministry. God has an amazing plan and purpose discovered by His Followers who serve.

1st A Servant's Fidelity (6) *"Poured out a drink offering..." (6)*
The Father enlists His Children as ministers

2nd A Servant's Function (1:6-7) *"Stir up the gift of God..." (1:6)*
The Father equips His Children for ministry

3rd A Servant's Fight (7a) *"I have fought the good fight..." (7a)*
The Father empowers His Children to serve

4th A Servant's Finish (7b) *"I have finished the race..." (7b)*
The Father encourages His Children to succeed

5th A Servant's Faith (7c) *"I have kept the faith..." (7c)*
The Father enlightens His Children to trust

6th A Servant's Favor (8a) *"The Crown of Righteousness..." (8a)*
The Father evaluates His Children's service

7th A Servant's Family (8b-10) *"To all who have loved His appearing..." (8b)*
The Father enriches His Children with support

Application to life: There is joy in the Journey when we serve. The Spirit has *placed* you in the Body and has a unique *place* for you to minister. We have a *program* to help you find your *purpose* in the Family. You are not here by accident or coincidence but by divine *providence*. Aren't you ready to follow Paul's example and engage yourself in God's *plan*? Your Church needs your *participation* and heaven is waiting to award you the *prize* or Crown for faithfulness on the Journey. You'll be blessed and be a blessing to the Father and the Fellowship.