



THE JOY OF SERVICE

A PRAYER TO BEGIN WITH

O God! Make this assemblage radiant. Make the hearts merciful. Confer the bounties of the Holy Spirit. Endow them with a power from heaven. Bless them with heavenly minds. Increase their sincerity, so that with all humility and contrition they may turn to Thy kingdom and be occupied with service to the world of humanity. May each one become a radiant candle. May each one become a brilliant star. May each one become beautiful in color and redolent of fragrance in the Kingdom of God.

O kind Father! Confer Thy blessings. Consider not our shortcomings. Shelter us under Thy protection. Remember not our sins. Heal us with Thy mercy. We are weak; Thou art mighty. We are poor; Thou art rich. We are sick; Thou art the Physician. We are needy; Thou art most generous.

O God! Endow us with Thy providence. Thou art the Powerful. Thou art the Giver. Thou art the Beneficent.—*Abdu'l-Bahá*

I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy.—*Khalil Gibran*



That one indeed is a man who, today, dedicateth himself to the service of the entire human race. The Great Being saith: Blessed and happy is he that ariseth to promote the best interests of the peoples and kindreds of the earth.—*Bahá'u'lláh*

Man's merit lieth in service and virtue and not in the pageantry of wealth and riches.—*Bahá'u'lláh*

Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?' –*Martin Luther King, Jr.*



What else will rescue the world but the efforts of countless souls who each make the welfare of humanity their principal, their dominating concern? –*The Universal House of Justice*

Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.—*Albert Einstein*

If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else.—*Confucius*

What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.—*Nelson Mandela*

You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.—*Desmond Tutu*

By consecrating oneself to the service of others, one finds meaning and purpose in life and contributes to the upliftment of society itself.—*The Universal House of Justice*

For work, especially when performed in the spirit of service, is according to Bahá'u'lláh a form of worship. It has not only a utilitarian purpose, but has a value in itself, because it draws us nearer to God, and enables us to better grasp His purpose for us in this world.—*Shoghi Effendi*

Service is the magnet which draws the divine confirmations.—*Shoghi Effendi*

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.—*Peter 4:10*



Therefore, order your lives in accordance with the first principle of the divine teaching, which is love. Service to humanity is service to God. Let the love and light of the Kingdom radiate through you until all who look upon you shall be illumined by its reflection.—‘*Abdu’l-Baha*

A generous person
will prosper; whoever
refreshes others will be
refreshed.—*Proverbs 11:25*

The reward of
goodness is nothing but
goodness.—*Al Quran 55:61*



To give and to be generous are attributes of Mine; well is it with him that adorneth himself with My virtues.—*Bahá'u'lláh*



The more we search for ourselves, the less likely we are to find ourselves; and the more we search for God, and to serve our fellow-men, the more profoundly will we become acquainted with ourselves, and the more inwardly assured. This is one of the great spiritual laws of life.—*Shoghi Effendi*

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.—*Mahatma Gandhi*

Strive constantly to serve the welfare of the world; by devotion to selfless work one attains the supreme goal of life. Do your work with the welfare of others always in mind. —*The Bhagavad Gita*

The honour and distinction of the individual consist in this, that he among all the world's multitudes should become a source of social good. Is any larger bounty conceivable than this, that an individual, looking within himself, should find that by the confirming grace of God he has become the cause of peace and well-being, of happiness and advantage to his fellow men? No, by the one true God, there is no greater bliss, no more complete delight.—*Abdu'l-Bahá*

