

# Reasons for people to serve

People



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

## **Serve To Discover Abundance: The Radical Shift From Me To We**

When you serve you discover that often the most important things you have to offer are not things at all. You start to uncover the full-range of resources at your disposal – your time, presence, attention – and recognize that the ability to give stems from a state of mind and heart, a place much deeper than the material. Inspired by the possibilities this opens up in every moment, you begin to discover humble opportunities to serve-everywhere. This process begins a shift from a me-orientation to a we-orientation. You start to look at people and situations with an eye for what you can offer them and not vice versa. You break the tiresome tyranny of questions like, “What’s in it for me?” The mindset shifts from one of consumption to one of contribution. Paradoxically, serving in this way, you are no longer operating from a space of scarcity.

### **Serve to express gratitude**

Such joyful gratitude becomes a foundation in service. When you acknowledge the fullness of your life you can manifest a heart of service in any situation. In that sense, service doesn’t start when we have something to give — it blossoms naturally when we have nothing left to take. And that is a powerful place to be. Yes, external change is required for the world to progress, but when coupled with inner transformation, it can affect the world in a radically different way. “ We can do no great things – only small things with great love,” maintained Mother Teresa, a woman who made a difference to the lives of millions. It’s a matter of what we focus on. Or in other words, it’s not so much what we do that only matters, but the inner impetus behind

our action that really counts. We serve to transform ourselves: Any time we practice the smallest act of service, even if it's only holding a door for somebody, but doing it with a full heart that says " May I be of use to this person" that kind of giving changes the deep habit of being self-centered. In that brief moment, there is other-centeredness. That other-centeredness relaxes the patterns of the ego - a collection of unexamined, self-oriented tendencies that subtly influence our choices. This is why no true act of service - however small - can ever really be wasted.

### **Serve to honor our profound interconnection**

Over time, all of those small acts, those small moments, lead to a different state of being. A state in which service becomes increasingly effortless. And as this awareness grows, you inevitably start to perceive beyond individualistic patterns: each small act of service is an unending ripple that synergizes with countless others. When you serve, you see life as whole. With that understanding, we begin to play our part - first, by becoming conscious of the offerings we receive, then by holding gratitude for them, and finally by continuing to pay forward our gifts with a heart of joy. Each of us has such gifts - skills, material resources, connections, presence - everything we consider ourselves privileged to have.

### **Serve to align with a natural unfolding**

When we increasingly choose to remain in that space of service, we start to see new things. The needs of the current situation become clearer, we become instruments of a greater order and consequently our actions become more effortless. When a group of people holds this kind of service as a practice, it creates an ecosystem that holds a space, allowing value to

emerge organically. All of this indirect value - the ripple effect - has space and time to add up, synergize with other ripples, and multiply into something completely unexpected. In humble fashion these ripples continues to seed unpredictable manifestations. Such an ecosystem can have its plans and strategies, but places more emphasis in emergent co-creation. So a lot of the ripples will remain unseen for years, some perhaps will be the basis for a seventh generation philanthropy. It doesn't matter - because they are unconditional gifts.