



FINE ARTS

# deployed june week 3

## discipleship dimension: service

### DIMENSION OBJECTIVE:

Disciples show gratitude and respect for the work and service of others and understand that service is an act of worship to God.



# Service is Sacrifice

## Clara Beauchamp

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### scripture

“But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, ‘We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word.’ Everyone liked this idea, and they chose the following: Stephen (a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit), Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas of Antioch (an earlier convert to the Jewish faith).”

#### Acts 6:1–5

“The Jewish leaders were infuriated by Stephen’s accusation, and they shook their fists at him in rage. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed steadily into heaven and saw the glory of God, and he saw Jesus standing in the place of honor at God’s right hand. And he told them, ‘Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing in the place of honor at God’s right hand!’ Then they put their hands over their ears and began shouting. They rushed at him and dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. His accusers took off their coats and laid them at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they stoned him, Stephen prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ He fell to his knees, shouting, ‘Lord, don’t charge them with this sin!’ And with that, he died.”

#### Acts 7:54–60

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### discover

Jim Elliott was an American Christian missionary to the people of Ecuador. He and his team arrived there in February of 1952 with the purpose of evangelizing Ecuador’s Quechua people. After a few years of serving in the country—during which he had gotten married and had a daughter—his group was met by ten Huaorani warriors who killed Elliot and his four companions on January 8, 1956.

**develop**

As we see both in the passage and in Jim Elliott's story, service often requires sacrifice. Though most of us won't be called to make the ultimate sacrifice of giving our physical lives, it does cost something to evangelize and participate in fulfilling the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20).

It doesn't come free or easy. It may chew up your time or money. It may take setting down your pride or letting go of personal plans or your idea of what your life should look like. Even when it means giving up something, it is important to live out our faith by serving others and sharing the gospel. Serving isn't always easy, but it is always worth it.

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**deploy**

How can you reflect Jesus through your service and actions? What is something that you need to sacrifice or let go of (time, comfort, a personal plan) that has been getting in the way of your call to serve and share your faith?

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**prayer**

**Pray that God would help you to align your priorities with His and recognize what is most important, even if it means sacrificing something else. Ask that He would guide you in both your attitude and actions as you serve others.**