

The Value of Service

I have been playing baseball for over 12 years. There is nothing more I enjoy than playing baseball. It has all been made possible through volunteering and service. Every coach I had when I was younger was a volunteer. My first coach was running to be a member of the provincial parliament. He was in an election, trying to be elected yet would find time to be coaching our 8u baseball team. His sacrifice of time made it possible for me to play baseball and have fun.

Service can give a full circle to life. It is like a family. When the children are young, the parents need to take care of them. Then, when the parents get old, the roles are reversed. This is what baseball was for me. All these volunteer coaches made it possible when I was young. They gave me an opportunity to enjoy and flourish. Now I am doing the same thing. My CBSL is coaching a start-up high school baseball team. All the coaches I had for so many years, teaching me everything there is to know about baseball, now gets passed back on. Bringing the service full circle.

Service is also important because it allows for new experiences. It allows people to get out into the community and learn what more of it looks like. For example, I did service at the Redwood Empire food bank. When we gave the food to the people who needed it, it really gave me insight to our community. It showed me that even here, in our city, there are people who struggle to get food daily. This is why giving them what

we can to help them out is so, so important. It helps keep the community together, and help those who need it the most.

Mother Taresa said that “I alone can not change the world but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples.” This principle is what drives us to service. It is making change at the most minor level. It is like how our tax dollars work. The individual money we pay is not very much. However, since the whole country pays taxes, we are able to run the country with them. We provide roads, have a military and everything in between. Our service builds up the world the same way, except in this case it is with time and generosity.

Service is what holds a nation together. When there is a community based around service, that community tends to last. We see this as an example with the faith of this school. The Catholic Church has been around for over 2000 years. Part of the reason is that it is a faith based around serving others. The intent is what matters most. If a group or organization is trying to do something good, they will last longer, gain more trust and ultimately make everyone happier. Once people are happy, you can last a long time. It is only so long humans can last by trying to one up and slowly gain advantage, it takes a toll on someone.

In conclusion, we are drawn to service because it benefits humanity whilst growing ourselves. It is essential for the survival of our species, because it brings us together. It unites us in one common cause, while also potentially teaching someone something new. It is what keeps us together, and thriving as a species.