

Development Phase Selected: Maturing

You selected the statement, "I join Jesus in mission to others using my God-given gifts, talents and passions."

What a great place to be! You have discovered how God has 'wired' you for service in the kingdom and have found a place to serve that is satisfying and rewarding to both you and those you are serving.

At the heart of the life of discipleship is the calling to be a blessing to others, and that's exactly what you're doing.

Of course, this means that you are involved in some kind of hands-on ministry making a difference in people's lives. One of the greatest gifts we can offer is the gift of ourselves. As we get involved in the lives of those who are in need, we discover more about ourselves and more about God. We become the presence of Christ with them, and that is the ultimate gift.

What's Next?

First of all, continue to do what you are doing. Your life can be an amazing witness to those who do not know the love of Jesus yet are seeing an expression of that love through your service.

Share your journey with others. Perhaps you could provide an occasional testimony during worship that would both celebrate the impact being made in you and your community.

Mentor someone starting out in his or her discipleship journey. Help them to discover how God might use them in the transformation of the world.

You might consider entering a relationship with a discipleship coach or a spiritual guide to work with as you continue to pay attention to how God is leading you to make a difference in your community and beyond.

Suggested Resources

If you like to read or study for personal development, we suggest the following resources:

Outreach, by Group Ministries

The Externally Focused Church, by Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson

When Helping Hurts, by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert

What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty, by Bill Ehlig & Ruby Payne