

From Work to Divine Service

Spiritual Wisdom

What is Divine Service that is done with joy and goodness of heart? This is song.

– Talmud

Divine service is striving to do what the universe guides you to do, with good intentions and freedom from attachment to the results. Divine service is a magical willingness that helps you receive guidance on how you may be helpful to a person, a place, an event, or humanity. Divine service is doing what needs to be done because the need has come before you and you're in a position to do it.

You may serve by establishing or supporting charities that serve various societal needs. Or you may serve by giving smiles and kind words as you walk through your day. Sometimes you may receive pay for your service, and other times you may not receive anything beyond the inner satisfaction of having given freely of your time, energy, and skills to bring more goodness and light to the world.

Once you become more spiritually aware, service is simply what makes sense. Service becomes not so much an effort or burden, but an inner stance in relationship to the world around you. You look for ways to bring greater healing and light to the world. Wherever you are, you can walk into any situation with a gentle willingness to serve.

For example, you sit at a café to enjoy a pastry and notice a single mother next to you who is looking stressed while struggling with her unruly child. You can give a compassionate smile or even have a chat with this new friend to see whether you can say something that would help alleviate her burdens. This is how I tend to walk through the world, and I've found that my inner willingness often brings about meetings and situations where I'm able to give some friendly suggestion or supportive help to a fellow traveler of life.

You can also get to a point where everything you do is done in the spirit of service – including brushing your teeth, feeding yourself with healthier foods than I just ate for lunch (ahem . . .), or walking in nature with a feeling of wanting to enjoy and serve the energy of the environment through your respectful appreciations, peaceful energy, and positive thoughts.

Service also includes efforts you make to sit quietly in prayer or meditation and taking care of your body, mind, and spirit so that you can be a good vehicle for serving in large or small ways from wherever you are in any moment.