Session 41: Beyond Our Walls: Serving the Wider Community

Phase 5 — Giving Back: Service, Leadership & Purpose · Block 1 — Service: Giving Back

Date: _____ My craving today (0–10): _____ One word for my week: _____

What we're learning

Session 34 built a community connection plan — places to belong. This session adds contribution to connection: you do not only join the community, you carry part of its weight. Community service also rebuilds a public identity. Every hour served is a fact about you that the old reputation has to compete with, and it is a fact other people witnessed with their own eyes.

- Belong, then contribute Connection without contribution keeps you a guest forever. Set the chairs at the church supper, stock the pantry shelf: guests receive; members carry.
- You represent; you do not speak In public you represent this program by conduct. You never speak for it, recruit for it, or explain its business; questions about the program go to staff. Your testimony out there is your work.
- Choose what you can keep A community post follows the same edges as a house post (Session 38): real need, named contact, set schedule, a season at a time — and it fits around work, meetings, and the 90-day plan, never instead of them.

Goals for this session

☐ I can choose one community service setting outside the program that fits my plan and schedule

☐ I can state the conduct standard for representing the program in public without speaking for it

☐ I can connect community service to the Community dimension of my 90-day plan (Appendix D)

Check-in

Where in this community have you been known for taking? What would it mean for your name to be known there for giving?

Discussion — write your answers

Write what you would say out loud — and more, if it comes. There is no right-length answer; there is only an honest one.

1. Which community setting fits your plan — and what is the first small job you would ask for there?

2. What part of your old reputation in a community do you most want your service to answer?

3. What could make community service a risk for you — old people, old places, pride? Name the guardrail.

4. Who did you meet on your first visit, and what job, if any, were you given?

Session 41 — Skill Practice

First-visit script (in pairs): using their Session 34 community plan, each participant practices a two-minute introduction — who they are, what they are asking for (a small, regular job), and when they can start. The partner plays the busy coordinator: interrupt once, and once answer 'maybe next month.' Practice receiving both without shrinking or selling.

My first-visit introduction — who I am, the small regular job I am asking for, when I can start:

The person I met, and the job I was given:

My takeaway

The one thing from this session I most need to remember — in my own words:

Homework — this week's application

☐ Make the first visit, or the decision visit, this week. Report at the next session's check-in: the name of the person you met and the job, if any, you were given.

Space to do the homework and note how it went:

An optional Scripture handout for this session is available from your facilitator on request.