

VIDEO 4

Transcript

How Can Runner Church Help You?



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Well, hello there, how we doing? I'm Pastor Jimmy of *Runner Church* and you're watching the fourth video in our series where I am answering questions we get asked a lot about who we are and what we do as a ministry and community. This time I'll answer the question...

"How can Runner Church help you?"

We try to make sure that all we do is grounded in Scripture and in line with the truth of the Gospel, and the answer to this question is no different.

The short answer is: we serve you.

Our model and motivation for serving other runners is highlighted in Matthew 20:28 where Jesus says...

"For even the Son of Man [Jesus] came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

That is why...

Runner Church serves the running community by modeling the servant heart of Jesus.

Everything we do for others flows out of what Jesus has done, is doing, and will do for us. We forgive others because He forgives us. We welcome others into our homes and lives because He welcomes us in. We love others because He loves us. We strive to be gracious and merciful, kind and compassionate, patient and helpful because Jesus is all of those things to us.

Of course, we don't do it as well as Jesus! Our core definition of what a Christian is even illustrates our ongoing need for His grace...

A Christian is someone who has faith in Christ that is demonstrated by loving obedience, though imperfectly executed.

Imperfectly executed. We aren't always going to get it right, but we do try to do for others as Jesus has done for us. Therefore, at the heart of our service to the running community is the heart of Jesus who served us and gave His life for us.

So, what are some ways in which Runner Church can serve you? Let me unpack that by quickly answering five related questions that we have received. This, of course, is in addition to the things we do which I've already talked about in earlier videos.

- 1. *What If I'm Already A Member Of A Church?*** If you're a runner who is already plugged into a church, we're excited about that! One thing that I want to make clear is this: our ministry is not about trying to take people away from the local church, but rather it is about trying to put people into the local church. If you're already a member of a local church, there are three things we'd love to do to help you: First, we'd love to show you how you can turn your passion for running into your mission to help other runners. Second, we'd love to have you bring your non-churched runner friends to one of our events so we can share the Good News of Jesus with them in a setting that may be more comfortable for them than a traditional service in a building. Third, we'd love to give you our resources and help you use running to grow your small group or church. If you're interested in any of that, contact us through our website or social media for more information.
- 2. *Will You Come To Our Event?*** Yes. We welcome the opportunity to bring *Runner Church* to your event. There are three ways in which we can be a part of what you're doing: volunteer, speak, or train. Are you hosting a running event and need volunteers? We have a team of volunteers who have extensive experience at races. Would you like me to come to your event to share a 10-15 minute talk consisting of a runner story and Bible message of Good News, or perhaps a lengthier sermon? I'd love to serve at your event in this way. Would you like to have your team, group, or church to be trained in how to use running (or any other "passion") to carry out the Great Commandments ("love God and love people") and the Great Commission ("make disciples")? Let us walk you through an hour-long training session. Contact us with details to check our availability and fit.
- 3. *Can I Talk To Someone About An Issue I Am Struggling With?*** Of course! I'm available to offer Biblical, gospel-centered counsel to any runner at no cost. My wife and I also offer free marriage counseling. Or if you just need someone to talk with before, during, or after a run, we have plenty of people to listen. Perhaps you have a spiritual question that you'd like an answer to, just need some words of encouragement, or want some guidance in a decision or next step. Again, reach out to us and let us know how we can help you.
- 4. *How Can I Use Running To "Love God And Love People"?*** We especially love to hear this question because it means that you "*get it*" that running can be so much more than getting miles in; it can be a platform for making a real difference in the lives of other runners. We're here to help! Drop by RunnerChurch.com and use our resources. You'll find an ever-growing suite of videos, infographics, lessons, messages, and other training materials to help you help others. Whether you use the materials yourself or pass them on

to others who might benefit from them, it's a great way to get better equipped to "*turn your passion into your mission*". If you have any questions that aren't answered in the resources, or if there is a particular resource you'd like to see developed, let us know.

5. *How Can I Get Involved In Runner Church?* The best way to get involved in *Runner Church* is to download our – wait for it – *Getting Involved Guide*. ☺ Drop by the RunnerChurch.com website and scroll down that main page. You'll see a large cover image and a download link. It's in .PDF format so you can read it on any computer or device. Or you can print it out to read it offline. In it you'll find 7 ways you can get more involved in *Runner Church*. One big way you can help is give away our "*Runner Stories*" CD of six of my Sunday morning messages. We want to get this CD into the hands of 10,000 runners and need people like you to give them away to runners you know. We cover all costs. For information on that and all the other ways you can be a part of what we're doing ... whether you're local or not local, check out the *Getting Involved Guide* at RunnerChurch.com.

These are a few of the ways that we are giving back to the running community. Feel free to reach out to us through our website or social media accounts with questions or suggestions on how we can help the running community.

We'd love to hear from you because we're here for you.

Our desire is to serve you in any way that best helps you in your spiritual journey and equips you to help other runners in their spiritual journey.

That's what we do ... because that's what Jesus would do.

Short Version: *We serve the running community by modeling the servant heart of Jesus.*