

*Chris Anderson on **Serving and Believing** (shortened)*

Contributing to the community here may or may not be part of what you believe in. I only hope that if you do not believe in it, it is because you do not believe in the things we teach, not because you do not like having to do duties or having to hike on Wednesdays. Making sacrifices for the achievement of group goals, like a clean place to live or a successful Long Walk, is a noble thing. The choice to make these sacrifices is made by each of us and cannot be decided by others. However, know that a man without anything to believe in becomes hollow and disgruntled, and that is a lonely way to live. Someday, we will all be alone; maybe you have been alone before. This is not alone in a room but alone in a larger place. Some of us will find things that cannot be taken from us, like ideas we believe in and places where we belong. And others will go through life simply being entertained and probably live to regret it sometime. Being a part of something bigger than yourself is one of the only substantial things a man can accomplish. Maybe you are strong, but no man is an island, and someday something in life will devastate you. It may be loneliness or loss, or weakness, and it will come to everyone. I pray that you realize the opportunity you have here to become a member of a greater thing, so that when life kicks you, you will have Paquaney to give you comfort and peace.