

Those Who Serve

People have not served who only gather gold,
Nor have they served, if their life is told
In selfish battles they have won,
Or deeds of skill that they have done;
But those have served who now and then
Have helped along their fellow men.

The world needs many people today;
Red-blooded people along life's way,
With cheerful smiles and helping hands,
And with the faith that understands
The beauty of the simple deed
Which serves another's hour of need.

Strong people to stand beside the weak,
Kind people to hear what others speak;
True people to keep our country's laws
And guard its honor and its cause;
People who will bravely play life's game
Nor ask rewards of gold and fame.

Teach me to do the best I can
To help and cheer our fellow man;
Teach me to lose my selfish need
And glory in the larger deed
Which smoothes the road, and lights the day
For all who chance to come my way.

Adapted from a poem (*Men Who Serve*) by Edgar Albert Guest (1881-1959)