

SERVING OTHERS

9TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Help your student discover how serving others reflects the heart of Jesus and helps them grow in empathy, humility, and purpose.

WHAT TO KNOW

Serving changes perspective. It shifts your teen's mindset from "me" to "we." When they serve others, they develop compassion, learn responsibility, and live out what it means to follow Jesus. It also gives your family a shared way to grow in faith together. The best place to start is with Jesus. Philippians 2:3-4 teaches us to value others above ourselves. That's exactly what Jesus modeled. He didn't just teach about love—He demonstrated it in action. Serving is not about being perfect—it's about being available. When your student shows up with a willing heart, they reflect Jesus to the world around them. It's not about having all the answers, it's about letting love lead.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.
Philippians 2:3 NIV

Serving others begins when we choose humility over pride.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others. 1 Peter 4:10 NIV
God gave us talents and time so we could make a difference in others' lives.

Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.
Matthew 25:40 NIV

Serving others is one way we show love to Jesus Himself.

Serve one another humbly in love. Galatians 5:13 NIV
Love leads us to serve without expecting anything in return.

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16 NIV

When we serve, we reflect God's love and bring Him glory.



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TALK ABOUT IT

- Why do you think Jesus chose to serve rather than be served?
- What makes it hard to think of others before ourselves?
- What are some ways we might put ourselves first without realizing it?
- How can serving help us shift our priorities?
- What's one thing you're hoping to learn or experience next time you serve?

LIVE IT OUT

Encourage your student to think of serving not as a one-time event, but as a rhythm that shapes who they're becoming. Talk together about small, consistent ways they can serve—like helping a neighbor, volunteering at church, or supporting a local outreach. Make a simple plan to try something together and let it grow from there. Remind them it's not about doing everything—it's about doing something with love. When serving becomes a habit, it becomes part of their identity in Christ.

PRAY TOGETHER

Talk with your student about what it means to serve with a humble heart and open hands. Ask God to use both of you to bring His love into someone's life.

"Jesus, thank You for showing us what true service looks like. Help us to be available, compassionate, and willing to put others first. Give us eyes to see where there's a need, and courage to meet it. Amen."

