

SERVING OTHERS

8TH GRADE

OBJECTIVE

Inspire your student to live beyond themselves by discovering how God has uniquely equipped them to serve others and make a difference.

WHAT TO KNOW

Middle schoolers may appear self-focused, but they're also searching for purpose. When they see a real need, they're often quick to respond with action and compassion. Serving others helps them move from "What do I need?" to "How can I help?" and gives them a sense of value within the body of Christ. It builds character, confidence, and spiritual growth. Students who begin serving now are more likely to keep living that way into adulthood. When they realize their age doesn't limit their impact, their faith becomes active and personal.

TRUTH FROM THE BIBLE

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
Mark 10:45

Jesus, the ultimate leader, modeled humility by putting others first.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

We've all been gifted by God to serve—not just for ourselves, but for the good of others.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. Philippians 2:3–4

True service starts with humility—thinking less about ourselves and more about the people around us.

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

Serving others reflects God's love and helps people see who He is.



SERVING OTHERS

8TH GRADE

TALK ABOUT IT

- What's something you've done to help someone else that felt meaningful?
- Who do you know that models a servant heart?
- How do you think God has gifted you to serve others?
- What makes it hard to serve sometimes?
- What's one way you could serve at church, school, or home this week?

LIVE IT OUT

Encourage your student to try serving in a new way—whether that's greeting on a Sunday, helping with younger kids, running slides, or cleaning up after an event. Challenge them to identify one person at home they can serve this week without being asked. After they serve, talk about it together: "What did you notice? How did that grow your faith?" Invite them to reflect on what kind of serving brings them the most energy or joy—God often uses those areas to reveal calling. As a parent, find ways to serve together. Look for a project you can take on as a family, and let your student see that serving isn't just something we do—it's part of who we are in Christ.

PRAY TOGETHER

Pray with your student this week, asking God to grow their heart for others and help them use their gifts for His glory.

"Jesus, thank You for showing us how to serve. Help us grow hearts that look for ways to care for others. Show us the gifts You've given us and how to use them to make a difference. Amen."

