

WEEK 4

SERVING

Theme

SERVING like Jesus

Memory Verse

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

Bible Verses

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

Big Idea

Why is *SERVING like Jesus* important?

Goals

- ➡ Give examples of different ways of *SERVING like Jesus*. How did Jesus model this? Why do we serve? How can we serve? How can a child serve?

WARM-UP

Freeze Buds!

What you need

Candy (something small like jellybeans), ice cubes

What you do

Give everyone 1 piece of candy. Let them eat it. Discuss: how does it taste? Ask everyone to put an ice cube in their mouth on their tongue and hold it there for as long as they can stand it. While they are holding the ice, hand out another piece of candy. Direct them that immediately after removing the ice (have a waste basket or sink handy if they need to spit it out) to replace it with the second piece of candy. Once everyone has tried their second piece discuss how the second piece of candy tasted compared with the first (because the ice has numbed the tongue they should not taste much of the second candy).

What you say

Why did the candy taste different the second time? What caused the change? When we only think about ourselves our heart (tongue) is numbed toward others. When we are unable to taste the second candy, that is like when we are unaware when others need help. Also, we are not able to taste the sweet reward we get of giving service to others. Jesus helps us to look past ourselves so we can see the need in others and where we can help.

OBSERVATION

In this skit Red will do something super nice for someone else but then expect something in return.

Teacher: Hey everyone! How has everyone done in their Red Letter Challenge at home so far?

Sharing Time: Would anyone like to come up and share with the group a challenge that they completed this last week? What you did or how you did it?

As people come up to share Red seems very excited and ready to share something but Teacher never calls on him.

As he is not called on he gets more and more discouraged and uses facial expression, body language and sounds to express his frustration.

Teacher: Wow! Another great week of amazing stories about different challenges you are doing. Hey Red did you have something to share too?

Red: (pouting) No and I'm not too happy with you.

Teacher: I'm sorry Red, you are welcome to share now!

Red: NO!

Teacher: Is it something I said?

Red: NO.

Teacher: Did you have a tough week at school?

Red: It was a great week at school.

Teacher: Oh Red, you aren't still mad about the...

Red: ...about the what?

Teacher: ...about the time I made you those cookies?

Red: What!?!? No, I love cookies. Why would I get mad about the cookies?

Teacher: You got mad that time I made oatmeal raisin cookies for you and you thought they were chocolate chip.

Red: Oh yeah....you have to warn someone so they aren't expecting chocolate. That was cruel and unusual punishment...but it's not even that.

Teacher: Well then, what was it?

Red: I was raising my hand the whole time and you waited until the end to call on me.

Teacher: Sorry. I called on you now. Are you mad I didn't call on you sooner?

Red: I helped you do one of your challenges this week, AND I was extra helpful to you getting ready for today. I did everything you asked so that I could be called on first! And you didn't even call on me.

Teacher: But Red, I thought you wanted to help me because you are my friend. I didn't realize that you wanted to be called on first.

Red: Yes, that was the whole point. Otherwise I wouldn't have wasted my time.

Teacher: Red that hurts my feelings! I always thought that real friends are those who help you out no matter what they get back. I know that's how Jesus serves; the love He gives is free without any favors back. If you only help out to get something, then you're really not serving. You're earning.

Red: Earning? What does that mean?

Teacher: Earning is working for something until you get it. Serving is giving without expecting any reward or payment. It's free!

Red: OK, I guess I can give you that help for free. I am your friend. I do want to help you!

Teacher: I know you do Red, and you were a BIG help! How about you help me right now with reviewing our 5 Red Letter Challenge weekly themes:

**Go through the words and different hand motions. Have them say them at super speeds and then slow them WAY down.*

Great job! This week is all about SERVING, so we are going to be learning all about how Jesus was a servant and also some ways that we can also serve!

INTERPRETATION / APPLICATION

Activity 1: Servant of All

Ages: all ages

What you need

Bowl, towel, soap, washcloth

What you do

Have children take turns washing and having their feet washed.

What you say

Jesus washed his disciple's dusty feet to show them that we need to serve others instead of being served. Sometimes it gets messy to serve others! Today we are going to try that, washing each other's feet!

Activity 2: Chore Charts

Ages: K - 3rd

What you need

Markers, crayons, colored pencils, (optional: foil star stickers), print off a free printable chore chart like the one below by blogger Sincerely Sara D. (one for each kid)

<https://www.sincerelysarad.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/CHORE-CHART.pdf>

What you do

Create chore chart for them to take home. Discuss different ideas and talk about what they already do or things they could possibly do in the future to help out around the home.

See the next page for ideas:

What you say

You have been made by God to serve! We have talked about serving in the world, serving in our city, and serving in our neighborhood. Another place we can start serving right away is our own home! You may already have a chore chart at home that you use, but if you don't use this one to remind you of the many different ways that you can help out around the house.

Activity 3: Hand Clapper Craft

Ages: all ages

What you need

Cardstock, hot glue, big craft sticks, buttons, crayons/markers for decorating

What you do

Have kids trace their hands on cardstock and decorate/color as they would like. Cut out handprints and lay them on top of each other. (Optional: to save time you can purchase cardstock paper cut-outs, or trace and cut out enough paper hands for every kid to get two.) Using hot glue (for adult helpers only) glue 3 buttons on the inside of the fingers. Put a large craft stick in the middle of the two hands and hot glue. Shake and make some noise! Once everyone has made their clapper go around the room and share one way they have served or one way they could serve. Make sure to give a clapper round of applause after each person shares!

What you say

Hands play a pretty important role in serving, it would be quite a challenge to serve without hands! We made some clappers today with hands to remind us to give thanks to God for our abilities to serve. Let's go around the room and share one way we have served or one way we could serve.

Assist in making their beds	Dust	Pick up their toys
Pick up playthings with your supervision	Get dressed with minimal parental help	Wash hands
Take their dirty laundry to the laundry basket	Make their bed with minimal parental help	Set the table with supervision
Fill a pet's water and food bowls (with supervision)	Bring their things from the car to the house	Clear the table with supervision
Help a parent carry in the lighter groceries	Write thank you notes with supervision	Help a parent prepare food
Sort colors for the laundry Match socks after clothing is washed	Be responsible for a pet's food, water and exercise	Be responsible for homework
Answer the phone with parental assistance	Vacuum individual rooms	Be responsible for belongings
Be responsible for a pet's food and water bowl	Wet mop individual rooms	Write thank you notes for gifts
Dust with supervision	Dust individual rooms	Wake up using an alarm clock
Hang up towels in the bathroom	Fold laundry with supervision	Wash dishes
Clean their room with supervision	Put their laundry in their drawers and closets	Wash the family car with supervision
Clean floors with a dry mop	Put away dishes from the dishwasher	Prepare a few easy meals on their own
Make their bed every day	Help prepare food with supervision	Clean the bathroom with supervision
Brush teeth	Clean their room when asked	Rake leaves
Comb hair	Empty indoor trash cans	Learn to use the washer and dryer
Choose the day's outfit and get dressed	Answer the phone with supervision	Put all laundry away with supervision
Help a parent clean up spills and dirt	Take care of personal hygiene	Take the trash can to the curb for pick up
	Keep bedroom clean	Test smoke alarms once a month with supervision

Activity 4: Hand Shadow Puppets

Ages: all ages

What you need

A very dark room, flashlights

What you do

Arrange the kids into pairs. Have them take turns holding the flashlight for the other while the other uses their hands to make different hand puppets on the wall.

What you say

The Bible says ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)
When you had a light behind you, you were able to make a picture on the wall with your hands! In the same way, when we serve people will see your good deeds, but they will only be able to see them because of our Heavenly Father’s love shining down on you.

Activity 5: Pancake Breakfast!

Ages: all ages

Make sure you get permission from parents due to allergies

What you need

Premade frozen pancakes (microwave or toaster or kept warm with a warmer), paper plates, forks, napkins/wet wipes, paper plates, syrup

What you do

Have the older kids serve a pancake breakfast to the preschool or have the older grades serve the younger or preschool kids a pancake breakfast. This is a great activity to get everyone involved. Some will be the chef, some can decorate menus and placemats, some will be the wait staff, some will be the cleaner, and someone will be in charge of syrup. They will have a blast delegating and working together.

What you say

It was so fun to see you all working together as you served pancakes! Everyone used different tasks to make this happen. If one person tried to do this all it would be a mess and would take forever! They wouldn't be able to get everyone pancakes in time! When we think about serving, it is important to remember how we need others when we serve. Serving as a group is the picture of what God says is the whole body of Christ. We are not all supposed to do the same things!

Activity 6: Digging Deeper: Serving

Ages: 3rd - 5th

Make sure you get permission from parents due to allergies

What you need

What you do

What you say

When we serve that it going to look different for everyone. Not everyone can be a person at the spa giving pedicures, but maybe a big sister might be really good at playing dress up with her little sister. Jesus served many times in the gospels: let's look at Philippians 2:7-8:

- ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
- ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

PRAYER

Dear God, you are the ultimate servant. You even gave up your life for us. We are sorry when we forget to serve or serve for the wrong reasons. We and so thankful that you have given us friends and families to serve around us! Please help us to see where we can be helpful to others, and also to understand how much You love us!

Amen

WEEK 4

SERVING

KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

Theme

SERVING like Jesus

Memory Verse

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Matthew 5:16

Bible Verses

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14-16

Big Idea

Why is SERVING like Jesus important?

Dear Parents:

Today we talked about the awesome opportunity we have to both understand our own gifts and talents and then using those to help and serve others. We discussed motive for serving and that we love and serve because Christ first loved and served us. Our serving ultimately comes as a response to God's redeeming love on the cross for us and His continued love and service to us: taking care of us every day.

Talk with your child this week about what unique gifts and talents God has given to them. Use the list below to match up and see how they can serve this week!

Ways you can SERVE this week:

- ➡ *Serve someone today who can't or won't pay you back.*
- ➡ *Make some cookies and bring it to them.*
- ➡ *Offer to pull weeds for them.*
- ➡ *Bring them flowers.*
- ➡ *Make them a cheerful card.*
- ➡ *Offer to play with some younger kids in the neighborhood so their mom can work in the yard or around the house.*
- ➡ *Offer to walk their dog for them.*

NEXT WEEK!!

We are talking about giving and want to raise money for _____. Please pray about and discuss with your child what it would look like for them to bring a special money offering next week to raise money for _____.