

Alley SG - February 9-10, 2019

Bible Story: Give Love (Meet People's Needs) • 1 Peter 4:10-11

Key Question: How can you serve someone today?

Bottom Line: Look for ways to serve others.

Memory Verse: Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all." Mark 9:35 (NIV)

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: "Me-Shirt" Activity Page (one per student), markers

What You Do:

- **Set out** markers and give each of the students a "Me-Shirt" Activity Page.
- **Invite** them to create a t-shirt design that expresses who they are, what they like to do, what they are good at, what's important to them, what they like about themselves—anything they feel identifies them in specific ways. They can use words or pictures or make a unique collage of several things.
- **Ask** them to spread out or work with their backs to one another so that no one sees what they draw.
- **Collect** the papers then place them in random order on the floor.
- **Challenge** the group to match the student with his or her "Me-Shirt."
- **Allow** time for each person to share about the things they wrote or drew.
- **Creatively brainstorm** with the whole group ways each person might be able to serve God based on what they expressed about themselves as they created their "Me-Shirt."

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bible, "Gift Cards" Activity Page (1 set of 10 per group), "Action Cards" Activity Page (1 set of 30 per group)

What You Do:

- **Sit** in a circle.
- **Review** today's lesson by reading (or asking a student to read) 1 Peter 4:10-11 to the group.
- **Remind** students that God promises a spiritual gift to every person who is a genuine follower of Jesus.
- **Place** the "Gift Cards" in a row on the floor.
- **Explain** that the cards name some of the gifts God gives to those who believe in Jesus.
- **Distribute** the "Action Cards" so that each student has several.
- **Invite** the group to place each of their "Action Cards" under a "Gift Card" they feel it best describes. Let them know that there are no right or wrong answers and that some of the "Action Cards" can apply to several different gifts.
- **Discuss** spiritual gifts and the evidence of them by asking questions that have open-ended answers.
 - Why do you think God gives spiritual gifts?
 - How might each of these gifts be used to serve others?
 - Which gift(s) do you think God has given you? What are some ways you can discover or develop a gift right now? Take a moment to imagine what your life could be like if you were using your gifts to serve others. What does that look like for you?
 - What's the difference between a spiritual gift and a talent or skill?
 - How do talents and spiritual gifts work together?
- If time allows, **ask** one person to turn around as you point to one of the "Gift Cards" on floor then let the other students shout out some of the "Action Words" that go with that gift as the person whose back is turned guesses the gift.

3. Discussion Questions

- What could be a benefit that comes with using your skills and gifts to serve others?
- What are some possible consequences of NOT using the gifts and talents God has given you to serve others?
- How could using the gifts God's given you change your life and the life of those you serve?
- When is it hard for you to lend a hand with a good attitude? When is it easy? What makes the difference between it being hard or easy?
- What can you do to help yourself be more motivated to serve others even when it is hard?
- What do you really enjoy doing? What are some ways you could do what you enjoy and help others?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Bible, prepared plates (numbered 1 through 5) (one set per group), Bible, "Gift Cards" and "Action Cards" used in "Bible Story Extension"

What You Do:

- **Set out** the prepared paper plates in a cluster and ask students to form a wide circle around them.
1. School 2.Church 3.Home 4.Neighborhood 5.World
- **Combine and distribute** the "Action Cards" and "Gift Cards" so that each person has several.
- **Demonstrate** how to "flick" a card by holding it vertically between the thumb and middle finger, squeezing the card lightly to form a letter "C" then release it.
- **Invite** students to "flick" each of their cards onto the paper plates in random places. It doesn't matter which cards land on specific plates.
- **Stop** after about 30 seconds and let students choose a plate of cards then share how that combination of gifts and actions could be used to meet the needs of people in the place designated on the plate.
- **Invite** a student to read John 14:15-17.
- **Discuss:**
 - What promises do you find in this verse?
 - When we want to serve others in some of the ways we shared earlier, how do those promises help us?
 - Why is the Holy Spirit such a perfect helper?
 - What is one idea you really liked from when we discussed ways we can serve others at home, school, community, church, or other countries? Why? How could you use that idea to serve people around you?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Prepared plates from previous activity (see "Verses to Take with You")

What You Do:

- **Place** the plates randomly on the floor around your group area.
- **Ask** students to stand by one of the plates.
- **Invite** them to think of ways they can serve God in the place written on the plate nearest them then ask for God's help to do so. Students can pray silently or aloud with those gathered at the same plate.
- After a minute, **ask** everyone to move to another plate and repeat the prayer with a new place in mind.

What You Say:

"Dear God, please be with us as we try to be your willing servants. Help us to remember that every time we serve a person in need, we're actually serving You! We pray this in Jesus' name, amen."

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH!