

SERVICE

On pages 58–59 of this issue Carol F. McConkie, first counselor in the Young Women general presidency, explains that service is the gospel of Jesus Christ in action: “When we serve others, we are engaged in the work of salvation. As King Benjamin taught, ‘When ye are in the service of your fellow beings ye are only in the service of your God’ (Mosiah 2:17).” The suggestions below will help you teach youth and children about service and its role in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Suggestions for Teaching Youth

- The Mormon Messages for Youth video “Extraordinary Gift” (online at lds.org/go/E24service) shares the story of a blind young man who uses his talents to bless others. You may want to watch the video with your family and talk about the extraordinary gifts each family member has been given. How can these gifts be used to serve others?
- In *For the Strength of Youth*, we read, “Some of the most important service you can give will be within your own home” (32). With your youth, discuss the importance of serving in

the home. What blessings come when family members serve one another? Plan a way that your youth can give more meaningful service at home.

- “Often the most meaningful service is expressed through simple, everyday acts of kindness” (*For the Strength of Youth*, 32). Invite your youth to create a service activity that consists of “everyday acts of kindness.” Discuss how service relates to the covenants we make at baptism (see Mosiah 18:8–10).
- Consider having a general conference scavenger hunt for family home evening in which family members use clues to look for statements on service from the most recent general conference. Share what you find and discuss how you can follow the counsel our leaders have given.

Suggestions for Teaching Children

- Help your children understand that there are opportunities to serve everywhere. Have family members look for ways they can serve during their daily activities, and then meet together and talk about your experiences.



SCRIPTURES ON THIS TOPIC

Matthew 25:35–45

Luke 10:25–37

James 2:14–17

- Share stories about service from your family history, a Church magazine, or a general conference talk. Read Mosiah 2:17 and talk about how we can serve Heavenly Father by serving others.
- Have your children draw pictures that show how they serve others. Ask them what things they can do to serve their siblings, friends, teachers, or parents. ■