



# **ELEMENTARY SPIRITUAL FOCUS**



**SERVE**



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# THE WHY

Your fourth grader is quickly growing up! At this age, kids start to better understand another's perspective and often want to help others. This is a great quality, and we want to help them learn, grow, and channel this desire to serve others. Learning to serve and be the body of Christ is very important in growing in their walk with God. By helping them understand and grow in the reason behind serving, they will be able to use their God-given gifts and talents as part of the body of Christ.

## WEEK 1: What Does It Mean to Serve?

### HEART OF A SERVANT:

Serving isn't always about the grand gesture that someone can do for another. To be a true servant, you want to bless another person and use your God-given gifts and talents without the desire for recognition. The heart of a servant needs to be humble and have a longing to do things with excellence with the other person's interests at heart. That means you need to pause and take time to listen to another person's needs, and then do your best to help them out. When you do that, you are putting aside what you want to do and putting that person first. By practicing this, you can learn to have a servant's heart.

*Philippians 2:4 (NIV) - "Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."*

*Galatians 5:13 (NIV) - "You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."*

### ASK & THINK ABOUT:

#### 1. What does it mean to be a servant?

To be a servant, we need to be humble. That means we need to listen to the other person first and then serve them with excellence.

## WEEK 2: What Are My Gifts and Talents?

### GIFTS & TALENTS:

God has given each of us a special set of gifts and talents. A gift or talent is normally something you are very good at doing. For example, you might be very good at talking and making friends, whereas another person might be very good at music. Both gifts are important and can be used to serve others. A person who is friendly can serve others by talking to and making others who are less outgoing feel welcomed and included. Someone with a musical talent can help lead during praise and worship time. Again, both gifts and talents are super important when it comes to helping others. You just need to learn how you can use your gifts well.

In the Bible, Jesus told His disciples a parable about three servants. Each of them was given a sum of money to invest so they could make more money. Two of the servants took what they were given and multiplied it, whereas the third servant hid his money and did nothing with it. The servant that did nothing was punished and the other two were praised and rewarded. God has given you gifts and talents. You want to multiply what He has given you by helping others.

## WEEK 2: What Are My Gifts and Talents?

*Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) - "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

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

### ASK & THINK ABOUT:

**1. What are your gifts and talents?**

Answers can vary.

**2. How can you use your gifts and talents to help others?**

Answers can vary.



## WEEK 3: How Can I Serve Others?

### NEXT STEPS:

Sometimes as a Christian you can wonder, “How can I serve others?” Serving doesn’t have to be complicated. The best way you can practice serving others is by serving your immediate family. A lot of times you don’t think about serving your mom, dad, brothers, sisters, or grandparents, but they are the first people you should look to serve. When your parents give you chores or tasks to do, it is an opportunity for you to practice putting them first with a good attitude. As you practice that repeatedly, you are developing a spirit of humility. If you can’t serve your parents with a humble spirit, you will not be able to serve others with a humble spirit. It might seem small, but God blesses you with more when you are faithful in the small serving opportunities. So, take on this challenge: I can serve my family with a humble spirit daily.

*Exodus 20:12 (NIV) - “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.”*

*Luke 16:10 (NIV) - “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.”*

### ASK & THINK ABOUT:

**1. Who can you serve in your life?**

I can serve my family every day.

**2. What happens when you are faithful and humbly serve your parents?**

When I humbly serve my parents, I am being faithful in the small serve opportunities that God gives me, and I am blessed.



**VICTORY KIDS**

