

Community helpers 3

Occupations: Serving with time and talents

God is a Humble Servant

Spiritual Awareness: Be faithful in little things

God has given each one of us different gifts and talents. It is our responsibility to develop these gifts and talents so that we may use them to serve God and others. Using our gifts and talents for God is being faithful to the One who gave us these abilities in the first place. It is important to use our gifts and talents with humility.

Our response to 'God is a Humble Servant'

Because God is a humble servant I will...

- follow the example of Jesus, the greatest servant
- be willing to help others
- consider the needs of others
- put others before myself
- let others go first
- not boast
- not think of myself as being more important than everyone else
- admit when I am wrong
- allow others to help me

Supporting devotional resource

Themes for Christian Studies 4, (Servant): Jesus, the humble servant

Themes for Christian Studies 5, (Servant): Jesus, the faithful servant

Biblical references

Bible stories and passages

Matthew 25:14-29 Parable of the talents

Luke 12:35-47 Be faithful in doing what Jesus wants us to do.

Acts 8:1-4 The disciples continued to be faithful in the face of danger

1 Corinthians 12:4-8 Our God-given gifts

Matthew 5:15 Don't hide your light under a bushel.

Luke 18:9-14 The rich man and the tax collector, (pride versus humility).

Luke 14:7-11 Don't make yourself important.

Matthew 20:20-28; Mark 10:35-45 A servant of all

Memory verses

Luke 6:10 Whoever is faithful in small matters will be faithful in large ones; whoever is dishonest in small matters will be dishonest in large ones.

Matthew 20:26 If someone wants to be great he must be the servant of the rest.

Luke 13:30 Those who are now last will be first, and those who are now first will be last.

Matthew 16:24 Jesus said, "If anyone wants to come with me, he must forget self, carry his cross and follow me."

Key Questions

What does it mean to serve?
How do people in the community serve us in the jobs they do?
What is a talent?
Can you think of a job that requires a talent?
What gifts has God given me?
What gifts and talents has God given my friends / family?
What should I do if I am good at something?
What should I do if I am not good at something?
How can I use my gifts and talents for God?
How can I encourage others in using their gifts and talents?
What is humility?
Should I boast about the things I can do well?
Should I make others feel bad if they can't do something as well as I can?

Outcomes

Students will

Knowledge

- identify occupations within the community and the way in which these occupations serve us
- identify particular skills and talents displayed by people working in professions
- identify personal strengths and weaknesses and to list ways of developing or improving these
- identify strengths in others and to encourage others in their abilities
- understand the importance of encouraging those who lack skills in certain areas
- identify ways of using personal gifts and talents for God, with humility

Skills

- listen to speakers and collecting information
- record information

Values

- appreciate ways in which people in the community use their talents to serve in work situations
- appreciate the gifts and talents of others
- understand the definition of humility
- be aware of putting others first

Activities

- Identify people in the community who use their gifts and talents in work situations.
- Interview visitors about their occupation.
- Take a survey to find out occupations of parents. Graph results.
- Make a list of businesses and services in the local community. Create a drawing or diagram to show how the businesses or services serve the community.

- Work in pairs to mime or role play an occupation. Students can guess the occupation being mimed.
- Discuss gifts and talents. Look up the Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23. Discuss how these fruits can be gifts to use for others. Also look up the gifts that God gives to us in 1 Corinthians 12:4-8. Discuss personality strengths and special abilities.
- Make a chart showing gifts and talents of every child in the class. Class members can make suggestions.
- Each child can make a card for another child in the class to show appreciation. Use a 'hat' to distribute names. The card can mention gifts and talents of the individual... *I appreciate you because...*
- Discuss importance of accepting each person, and accepting ourselves, for the way God made us; not complaining about our weaknesses; remembering that we can't be good at everything; not boasting about our strengths.
- Discuss ways of using gifts and talents for God.

Assessment

Write a report on one occupation and share it with the class.

What have I learned from the examples of community servants...

- about God?
- about His creatures?
- about my own special abilities?

Learning Connections

English:

Read and complete activities for 'On Safari', a series of stories which teach about motivational gifts, (1 Corinthians 12:4-8). See *Primary Literacy* http://www.beaconmedia.com.au/bm/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=146:on-safari&catid=57:literacy&Itemid=68