DATE

November 4th, 2026

SERIES

Serving Up Jesus: Week One

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE:
Jesus served us first, so we can serve others well.

SCRIPTURE:

- John 13:12-15
- Mark 10:43-45
- Philippians 2:5-7
- Galatians 5:13

GOAL OF COMMUNITY GROUPS:
For students to understand that real greatness isn’t through being served, but through serving others.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

Your students are swimming in a culture dominated by social media, self-promotion, and the constant drive to get noticed and served by others. Middle and high school students often view serving as an obligation, a punishment, or something reserved for adults and student leaders. Before you sit down with your group, remember that this message directly challenges the "me-first" default setting of adolescent culture. They need to see that Jesus didn't serve because He was weak, but because He was confident in who He was. Use your group time to reframe service as a privilege that reveals true strength, helping students realize that following Jesus means stepping down from the stage to grab a towel.

This guide is a starting point, not an absolute. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. The goal is to get students verbally engaging, NOT to get through everything in the curriculum.

DURING COMMUNITY GROUP

HIGH/LOWS & OPENING

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

DISCUSS THIS

LEVEL 1:

1. If you could hire a personal butler to do three annoying daily chores for you, what would you make them do?
2. What is one nice thing someone at your school or home did for you recently that totally caught you off guard?
3. When you hear the word "servant," what picture or person immediately comes to your mind?

LEVEL 2:

4. Jesus washed His disciples' feet—which was a gross job for a low-level servant. What is a modern equivalent of "washing feet" at a junior high or high school today?
5. Read **Mark 10:45**. Why is it so hard for us to admit that we want to be served more than we want to serve others?
6. Jesus washed Judas's feet even though He knew Judas would betray Him. How does that challenge the way you treat people who aren't nice to you?

LEVEL 3:

7. What is one area of your life where pride or a desire for recognition is keeping you from humbly serving someone right in front of you?

DATE

November 11th, 2026

SERIES

Serving Up Jesus: Week Two

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE:
Jesus built us to work together, so we can serve with purpose.

SCRIPTURE:

- 1 Corinthians 12:14-20, 26-27
- 1 Peter 4:10-11
- Romans 12:4-6
- Ephesians 2:10

GOAL OF COMMUNITY GROUPS:
For students to understand that God didn't give you gifts to show off. He gave them so you can serve.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

Your students are constantly comparing themselves to their peers—feeling either inferior because they aren't "talented" or superior because they get the spotlight. Teenagers often disqualify themselves from serving because they think they are too young, too shy, or not "spiritual" enough. Before you meet, remember that your job as a leader is to help them discover and unleash the unique ways God wired them. Create a space where every student feels seen and valued, helping them move past comparison and self-doubt so they can see how their specific personality, passion, and skill fit into God's family.

This guide is a starting point, not an absolute. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. The goal is to get students verbally engaging, NOT to get through everything in the curriculum.

DURING COMMUNITY GROUP

HIGH/LOWS & OPENING

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

DISCUSS THIS

LEVEL 1:

1. If your body could have one physical superpower (like super strength or 360 degree vision), what would you pick and why?
2. What is one skill, hobby, or talent you have that a lot of people in this room might not know about?
3. Why do you think it's so easy to compare our abilities to other people's abilities on social media or at school?

LEVEL 2:

4. In **1 Corinthians 12**, Paul says the foot shouldn't complain because it isn't a hand. What are some ways middle schoolers feel "less important" in the church or youth group?
5. Read **1 Peter 4:10**. What is the difference between using a talent to get attention for yourself versus using a gift to serve others?
6. How can a student who considers themselves introverted or shy use their gifts to serve the people around them?

LEVEL 3:

7. What is one specific gift or passion God has given you that you have been holding back, and how can you step out and use it to serve in our church or community this month?

DATE

November 18th, 2026

SERIES

Serving Up Jesus: Week Three

BEFORE GROUP

BOTTOM LINE:
Jesus loved us without recognition, so we can serve others without applause.

SCRIPTURE:

- Matthew 6:1-4
- Colossians 3:23-24
- 1 Corinthians 10:31
- Galatians 1:10
- Hebrews 6:10

GOAL OF COMMUNITY GROUPS:
For students to understand that God sees the service that nobody else notices.

THINK ABOUT THIS:

Your students live in a world where almost every good deed is documented, recorded, and posted online for clout and validation. The temptation for teenagers to turn service into a performance for social media or college applications or any other kind of recognition is immense. As you close out this series, help your students evaluate their true motives for serving. Create a space where they can be vulnerable about their desire for approval. Guide them to see that serving in secret isn't boring; it is an incredible act of trust that deepens their relationship with God, knowing that their Heavenly Father sees every hidden act of love and values it completely.

This guide is a starting point, not an absolute. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. The goal is to get students verbally engaging, NOT to get through everything in the curriculum.

DURING COMMUNITY GROUP

HIGH/LOWS & OPENING

Begin with highs & lows from their week after they introduce each other. Really take this time to listen and ask questions to show you are interested in their lives.

DISCUSS THIS

LEVEL 1:

1. If you did something amazing (like winning a huge game or scoring a 100 on a hard test), who is the first person you would want to tell?
2. Is it harder to do your chores at home when nobody notices or thanks you for doing them? Why?
3. Why do you think so many people post videos or photos of themselves doing charity work or helping others online?

LEVEL 2:

4. In **Matthew 6:1**, Jesus warns against doing good things "to be seen by others." What are some ways teenagers act like "hidden performers" in faith?
5. Read **Colossians 3:23–24**. How does knowing that Jesus is your true "boss" change the way you do boring or unseen tasks at school or home?
6. What is the difference between letting your light shine (Matthew 5:16) and showing off your good deeds for applause (Matthew 6:1)?

LEVEL 3:

7. What is one secret act of service you can commit to doing this week—at home, school, or church—that you will intentionally tell nobody about except God…and our group?