

Ace Your Serve

By Levi Schofield

for use as

STEP 1

**Lesson 12****Focus:**

Serve unselfishly.

Lesson 12**Bible Basis:**Luke 17:7-10;
Philippians 2:3-7**Lesson 12****Memory Verse:**"Anyone who wants to be first must be the
very last, and the servant of all."
—Mark 9:35b

Your students will hear a story of a student serving others in order to understand God's heart for serving others.

Materials:
 None

Open today's lesson by reading this brief story to your students:

Rajan is 13 years old and lives in an Indian orphanage, where he heard about Jesus and began to develop a personal relationship with God.

In spite of the hard things he's experienced, Rajan is still your classic teen, goofing off with friends and playing games. And like a typical teen, he doesn't find chores very exciting, especially those involving laundry.

One day, his teacher found Rajan hand-washing the dirty socks of 20 of his friends.

Now, these aren't your average socks that get worn once and then tossed into the laundry basket. These belong to children living in a dry and dusty terrain filled with countless insects, wild monkeys, snakes, and pothole-marked dirt roads. It's likely these socks are the only pair they own, many ragged and worn.

As he grew in his relationship with Jesus, Rajan noticed how Jesus served others—and realized that he could serve others, even at the orphanage. Rajan demonstrated the heart, sacrifice, and humility of Jesus by serving others.

➤ **Why do you think Rajan chose to serve his peers in this way? What reasons could he have given for not serving others?** (Accept all thoughts, though students may reference Rajan's desire to serve others as Jesus did. They may also share that Rajan could have focused on his difficult circumstances, rather than serving people.)

Although we don't like to admit it, we don't always serve others with the right motivation. Sometimes, serving feels like work instead of fun. Other times, we are motivated to serve by the recognition we may receive from serving.

➤ **Think about a situation where serving others may not be fun or where you may not get recognition for serving others. How could you choose to serve anyway?** (Accept all thoughts, though students may reference praying to ask God for help, remembering a Bible verse about serving others, or thinking of a time when others have served them.)

Today, we'll look at a biblical parable in order to understand how and why we should serve unselfishly.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

Story Source: <https://davidcalebcook.org/2012/06/27/would-jesus-wash-socks/>

middle school



Lesson 12 / August 23, 2020

Ace Your Serve

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 12
Focus:
Serve unselfishly.

Lesson 12
Bible Basis:
Luke 17:7-10;
Philippians 2:3-7

Lesson 12
Memory Verse:
“If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all.”
—Mark 9:35b

Materials:

- Whiteboard and marker
- Pens and Pencils
- Paper

Before class, write the Five Love Languages on the board (see the list provided below). If your class is meeting online, you can put the list in a document and share your screen with the students.

As we have learned today, selfless service is about doing things that fill others’ needs, not just doing the things that we like to do for others. One of the best ways for us to practice unselfish service is to serve the needs of those closest to us by identifying each individual’s “love language” and doing an act that is specifically catered to them. Love languages are the different ways people respond to the giving and receiving of gifts.

Point out and discuss each of the Five Love Languages you’ve written on the board. You might need to give an example for each language listed (example: physical touch = hugs).

The Five Love Languages:

- **Gift Giving**
- **Quality Time**
- **Words of Affirmation**
- **Acts of Service**
- **Physical Touch**

Using the materials provided, instruct your students to identify what they believe to be each one of their family member’s love languages. Then have them use this to construct a specific way to serve each one of them.

Write down each family member and the corresponding way in which you are planning to serve them with the love of Christ. Next, challenge your class to construct and carry out a

service plan for the coming week that dedicates each day to a specific act of individually tailored service for a specific family member. Lastly, have them keep a record of each person's reaction to the service and use it as a motivation to continue serving even when they are feeling unappreciated.

Close in prayer, thanking God for the ways in which He serves us each day.

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