

Lesson 11 / November 14, 2021

Seeking to Serve

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1**Lesson 10****Focus:**

God is honored when we serve Him.

Lesson 10**Bible Basis:**

I Kings 4—10

Lesson 10**Memory Verse:**

“Be sure to fear the LORD and serve Him faithfully with all your heart; consider when great things He has done for you.” —1 Samuel 12:24

Students will examine the ways that Solomon honored God through his service and will explore opportunities to serve others in their daily lives.

Materials:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard and marker

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.)

Rajan is an example of a willing volunteer.

➤ **Why do people volunteer?** (Answers will vary; Jesus tells us to help others, to help others who might not have what they do, to give back if they were served by someone else.)

➤ **What kinds of projects or tasks have you volunteered to be a part of?** (Responses will vary depending on the passions and interests of students. Make a list of volunteer experiences on the white board.)

➤ **How does it feel to volunteer? Have you enjoyed it? Why or why not?** (Allow students to share about their volunteer experiences.)

King Solomon honored God by taking on the huge job of building the temple. Unlike Russell, Solomon gave his time and effort without expecting anything in return. Let's see what we can learn from Solomon's example as we look more closely at our lesson.

(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/>

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STEP 4 

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Materials:

- Pens/pencils (1 per student)
- Index cards (1 per student)

If your class is meeting online, have teens come to class with index cards and pens/pencils.

As he worked to build the temple, King Solomon showed how we can honor God through our service. Solomon had been blessed with wisdom, power, riches, and resources, and he used those gifts to accomplish tasks that would bring honor and glory to God. While it can be easy to see how someone as rich and powerful as Solomon could use what he had been given to serve God, it can be challenging for someone your age to feel old enough to serve in a way that makes a difference. You can serve others in lots of ways!

It’s a pretty amazing that throughout this country, and even all over the world, kids are working to serve others. And we can join them by finding opportunities to serve and bless those around us.

We will take a few minutes to think about the different areas in our lives and the kinds of things we can do to serve others. Think about the various people you see and the places where you often are. Think about ideas for how you can serve others. Service doesn’t have to be a big project that takes a lot of time; you can serve someone in no time at all simply by smiling and being friendly.

- **What are some ways that you could serve others?** (Allow students to respond.)

Hand out index cards and pens/pencils to your teens. If your class is meeting online, invite teens to have their cards and pens/pencils ready.

On your index cards, write down some ways you can serve in the coming weeks and months!

Encourage your preteens to display their cards in a place where they can see them often and be reminded of what they can do to serve others. Have them put the cards somewhere where they can easily see them and be reminded of the impact they can make when they seek to serve others. **You don't need the riches, the power, or the resources that Solomon had; you simply need an open and willing heart to see the countless opportunities around you in which you can serve and glorify God.**

Close in prayer.

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