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Lesson 11 / November 15, 2026

Seeking to Serve

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as STEP 1

Lesson 11
Focus:
God is honored when we serve Him.

Lesson 11
Bible Basis:
I Kings 4—10

Lesson 11
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 (or screenshared document)

Over the last couple years, you've probably heard about at least one of the world events that have displaced people from their homes.

➢ **Have you heard about any of these events? If so, what event?** (Invite students to share, encouraging them to share factually and without political commentary.)

Some of these events are the war in Ukraine, the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and the conflict between Israel and Palestine. When people are displaced from their homes, they often become refugees and seek safety in another country.

As displaced people seek refuge, other people, organizations, and churches step up to provide shelter, food, and necessary supplies to those in need. Let's check one way that some students at Utah State University (USU) are helping.

Invite students to watch the following video [0:47]:

'It means building hope': USU brings independence to refugee group through chicken coop project

https://www.abc4.com/news/wasatch-front/usu-students-build-chicken-coop-utah-refugees/

➢ **This is just one of many ways people around the world are serving refugees. Why do you think college students chose to serve by building the chicken coop and caring for the chickens to provide eggs and poultry for refugees? What reasons could they have given for not volunteering to help others?** (Accept all thoughts, though students may reference a desire to serve others.)

The college students are examples of willing volunteers. They were not required to participate in the chicken coop building and flock tending that benefit refugees, but they cared deeply about the mission and wanted to be part of it.

➢ **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 or screenshared document.)

➢ **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. 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.)

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Materials:
- Pens/pencils
- Index cards

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

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.)

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). **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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