



WEEK ONE – FEBRUARY 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

Bible Story: *Gotta Serve Somebody* • John 13:1–17

Bottom Line: *Serve others because of what Jesus did for us*

Memory Verse: *“Jesus sat down and called for the twelve disciples to come to him. Then He said, ‘Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last. They must be the servant of everyone.’”* – Mark 9:35 NIV

Life App: *Service – Lending a hand to help someone else*

Basic Truth: *I should treat others the way I want to be treated*

Summary: We start the month in John 13:1–17 where Jesus offered an incredible example of service. When the disciples show up to the meal with Jesus, their feet would have been dirty from walking the roads of Jerusalem. Their feet would have been disgusting! Instead of allowing a servant to come and wash their feet, Jesus took a basin and a towel and did the work Himself. The disciples were astonished that their Lord would stoop to such a level.

8:50–9:00 | 10:20–10:30 | 11:50–12:00 – EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the For Everyone box on the wall near the main entrance
- Guide kids to place their offerings in the container.
- Lead kids in a few rounds of “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes.” Sing the song below while kids touch the corresponding body parts. Add fun by varying your pace and by leading kids to use different voices: whisper, mouse, slo-mo, and “underwater.”
 - Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose.
Head and shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.
 - *NOTE: If you have first graders (or if your kinders are really familiar with the song), increase the challenge by progressively omitting words and substituting hums. End by saying only “toes.”*

2. Wet Feet, Dry Feet

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play

What You Need: *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss

What You Do:

- Read the book to the kids, or invite volunteers to read.
- As you go, keep interest high by guiding kids to stomp their left and right feet accordingly. You can also invite them to show slow feet, quick feet, trick feet, and sick feet while staying in place.

What You Say:

“Whew! That’s a LOT of feet! Do you ever have fuzzy fur feet? Low feet? High feet? (Turn to the wet feet, dry feet page.) Do you ever have wet feet? (Pause.) Do you ever have dirty feet?”

[Transition] In our Bible story today, we’ll hear about a time when some people had dirty feet, then wet feet, and finally dry feet. Let’s go learn more.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10–9:45 | 10:40–11:15 | 12:10–12:45 – LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *Serve others because of what Jesus did for us. When we need that extra measure of strength to do what it takes to help others in need, we can remember all that Jesus did for us. He not only lived a life a service, but He gave His life as the ultimate example of service. We reflect His character when we serve the people around us.*

9:45–10:05 | 11:15–11:35 | 12:45–1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Who? How?

[Application Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: “Who” and “How” Dice (Activity Pages)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to get in a circle.
- Show the dice and explain that one die shows WHO we can serve while the other shows HOW we can serve.
- Invite two kids to roll the dice and identify the pictures rolled.
- Encourage the group to brainstorm ways they could serve that person with that item. Ask prompting questions if kids are stuck for ideas.

What You Say:

*“Being kind to people who need friends, helping people when they’re sick, or doing jobs we may not like to do are all GREAT ways we can [Bottom Line] serve others because of what Jesus did for us. **[Make It Personal] (Tell kids how you plan to serve someone this week.)** Who is someone YOU can serve this week? (Pause.) How can you serve them? (Pause.) So remember: **[Bottom Line] serve others because of what Jesus did for us.**”*

2. Servant of Everyone

[Memory Verse Activity]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Bibles; Washcloth; Music

What You Do:

- Help kids look up the verse using the Bible navigation tips below.
 - **Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide children to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to the word Mark at the top of the page as you say “Mark” aloud. Then guide children to find the big number 9 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 9 for the little 35; this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read the verse aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.
 - **Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Mark in the list under “New Testament.” You can help by telling them that Mark starts with the letters M–A. When the kids find Mark, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Mark. Help the kids find the page. When they find Mark, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 9. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 35 in chapter 9.
- Unpack the truth that being a “servant of everyone” means that we should always be willing to help anyone, anywhere—even if it means doing something that we don’t like to do.
- Guide kids to sit in a circle.
- Give one child the washcloth, and guide her to pass it around the circle as you begin the music.
- As kids pass the washcloth, lead them to say, “Be the servant of everyone,” one word at a time.
- Periodically stop the music when a child says “everyone.” Encourage that child to name someone they can serve this week.

What You Say:

“Instead of having a servant wash His friends’ feet, Jesus took off his outer coat, wrapped a towel around his waist, knelt down, and washed his friends’ feet himself! Jesus loved His friends SO much that He was willing to do anything for them.

*“And you know what? You and I can serve others because of how Jesus served us. Sometimes we might serve others by doing things we don’t like to do, like picking up trash or setting the table or doing the dishes or even being kind to someone who’s been mean to us. But that’s the example Jesus gave us! So the thing to remember this week is this: **[Bottom Line] serve others because of what Jesus did for us.**”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Guide kids to gather around you.
- Lead them to stomp and hop in rhythm as you say:
 - Left foot (stomp left foot)
 - Right foot (stomp right foot)
 - Feet, feet, feet (hop, hop, hop)
 - How many, many feet you meet (quickly run in place)
- Repeat it two or three times.
- Then add variety by chanting at a variety of volumes and paces.
- Bring the energy down by guiding kids to “shrink” and chant progressively quieter.
- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids into prayer.

What You Say:

(In a whisper) “Wow! Every day, you meet SO many feet: family feet, friend feet, classmate feet, neighbor feet, EVERYONE feet. And you know what? Every pair of feet is someone you can serve. You can serve your family, you can serve your friends, you can serve your classmates, you can serve your neighbors, you can be the servant of everyone!

*“So this week, remember how Jesus served His disciples by washing their feet, and remember to **[Bottom Line] serve others because of what Jesus did for us.** Let’s pray.*

*“Dear God, thank You so much for sending Jesus to save us. Thank You for the way He served His disciples and the example He set for us. Please help us to **[Bottom Line] serve others because of what Jesus did for us.** We love You. We pray this in Jesus’ name, amen.”*

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to name one way they can serve others this week. Also, don’t forget to hand out this month’s content overview to each parent!