



October 2015



SERVING AS A FAMILY

by Jen Kanak, Mosaic Infant Director

Several years ago my mentor asked me if I wanted to go to a local laundry mat with her and the ladies from her community group. We weren't going to do laundry though, we were going to serve dinner to people in the community who come and are able to do their laundry for free. I said "Yes!", but my only question was "Could I bring my daughters?" I didn't want to miss out on this great opportunity to do something like this alongside my teenage daughters. I was excited to hear that I could. We went that following Friday night and helped set up the counter with the food and drinks. My daughters then helped serve the main meal and dessert. We had so much fun! On our way home all three girls were asking when we could go back and do that again!

Ever since the girls were young, my husband and I have tried to instill in them the importance of serving others. Whether it was Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes or snack packs through the Samaritan Center, we have looked for ways to serve others. We believe in the importance of teaching our girls to have their eyes open and outward to look for ways we can serve others as a family. We also believe that teaching our girls to see others as Jesus sees them helps to take the focus off of themselves and put other people's needs first. An added benefit to us serving as a family is that it grows us together. The things we see, the things we experience help us learn more about God, His people, and how we fit into that story. The value of serving is eternal. Jesus said, "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40

I pray over my daughters that they will always hold the commandment to love God first and then love others as yourself. I pray that they would hold that truth deep within their hearts, that serving others becomes a part of their life, and not just a project they do from time to time.

As parents we all want our children to be kind, loving and respectful to others. Showing our children ways to serve others is a wonderful opportunity to plant the seed of loving others. And it's never too late to start!

See the resources section below for places right here in Northwest Arkansas where you can serve as a family.

Virtue of the Month

Join us this month as we pray

SERVANTHOOD for our children.

Prayer:

Father, teach <child> the ways of leadership you desire; being a willing servant and putting the needs of others above his own. Make this his heart's desire and purpose, Lord. Develop in <child> the same attitude as your Son, Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve.

Scripture:

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. - Philippians 2:3-4

What's Happening?

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER:

Worship with Me in Preschool and Kindergarten

October 17

Streetfest

October 28 | 6:00-8:00pm
Fellowship and Jones Center

Spring Break Mission Trip Sign-Ups

November 2

Jr High/High School Parent Quarterly

November 7 | 6:20 or
8:10pm

Family Center Auditorium

Healthy Sexuality:

Conversations with our Children

November 8

Stage 13: Father-Son Retreat

November 13-15

Camp Oida

November 21-22

RESOURCES

BOOKS

[Barefoot Church: Serving the Least in a Consumer Culture](#)
[The Spoon in the Stone: A Lesson in Serving Others](#)
[A Super Simple Mission Kit: Kids Serving Kids](#)

ARTICLES

[Shared Sacrifice](#)
[Serving God by Serving Others](#)

AUDIO VISUALS

[Veggie Tales: Bob Lends a Helping Hand \(DVD\)](#)
[Adventures in Odyssey: A Game of Compassion \(radio\)](#)

PLACES FOR FAMILIES TO SERVE IN NORTHWEST AR

[Samaritan Community Center](#)

[Laundry Love](#)

[Cobblestone Project](#)

Habitat for Humanity, [Washington Co](#) & [Benton Co](#)

[Samaritan House Fellowship](#)

[NWA Food Bank](#)

[Operation Christmas Child](#) - boxes are currently being distributed and return Oct 31, Nov 7 or 14

[Samaritan Center Food Drive](#) - participate with Mosaic Nov 7 or 14

[Mosaic Partners](#)

Other places to serve: nursing homes, soup kitchens, animal shelters, and your neighbors!



Great family "you and me" activity for the month to teach your children servant hood in the home. One of our #TipTuesday challenges was: parents grab a towel and basin of water and read John 13:1-17 together. Wash your children's feet as you talk about the importance of servanthood and how they serve others.



