



# Ways To Serve Others

Our acts of service are part of God's master plan, and faith ripples out from them for generations! Acts of service really are ways that we can use our spiritual gifts to help each other, and, as Reeder said, they can help us figure out what our spiritual gifts are. Are you feeling inspired to serve others?

Check out this list below for some ideas!

## 1. Donate

- a. You can donate your time. Taking the time to help out can be just as valuable as financial support!
- b. You can donate money to an organization that means something to you, such as a church, a program that helps the less fortunate, a nonprofit organization, and many other places.
- c. You can donate your things—many places accept clean and unused or in good condition clothing, shoes, toys, dishes, blankets/quilts, furniture, books, and other items.

## 2. Help Someone in Need

- a. Many families like to help the homeless by offering them care kits/bags containing things such as water, snacks, reading materials, a pair of socks, a toothbrush and toothpaste, and other personal care items.
- b. Help a friend, family member, or even a neighbor with a task they've mentioned working on.

## 3. Volunteer in Your Community

- a. The next time you go to the park or playground, clean up the trash to keep it nice for others around you to enjoy it.
- b. You can easily become involved in your community—it only takes a little effort to contact a local group, charity, or other community program about volunteer opportunities.

## 4. Help Teach Someone

- a. Share your knowledge! Help someone learn a core concept or life skill or show them a useful way to solve a problem. Homework help in particular is greatly appreciated.

## 5. Be a Friend

- a. Something as simple as being a friend can be a way to serve.
- b. By being friendly and kind, you'll not only support others but also build a network of support for yourself for when you need a friend.

## 6. Share Your Talents

- a. Sometimes our first response to someone needing support is to bring them food, and that's good, but there are a lot of other ways we help.
- b. The Lord has given each of us special talents that we should develop and use to serve God and others. Examine your life and see what talents you have. What are you good at? How could you use your talents to help those around you? Do you enjoy making cards? You could make cards for people who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Are you good with your hands? Technology? Gardening? Building? Organizing?
- c. Simply being willing to help can also be a spiritual gift! For a lot of projects, you don't have to be a pro to help get it done. Ask around to see who could use assistance.

## 7. Serving Those Who Serve

- a. Do you like to bake? You could give fresh baked goods along with personalized cards to people in personal care and service jobs—mail carriers, emergency service workers, healthcare workers, grocery store workers, repair workers, custodians, chaplains, teachers, and so many others.

