

Our Christian Family Value for February is ...

Service



Jesus taught us about love.

On a few occasions, He was asked which is the most important commandment, and His response was, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."

The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself."

There is no commandment greater than these."

Jesus gave us some examples of what it means to love through his teaching and his words. Through his compassion and healing of the sick, Jesus taught us to care for one another and take care of those who are in need. At the last supper when he washed the feet of His disciples, he taught us that we need to serve those we love.

Father,
Allow me to serve others with a joyful heart;
Never keeping score;
Always giving;
Never expecting to receive.
Allow me to give of myself,
To give of my talents and of my goods,
To give of my time and of my energy,
To give of my heart and of my soul.
Help me understand the needs of others,
Never criticizing,
Never demeaning,
Never scolding,
Never condemning.
Always Loving,
Always forgiving,
Always restoring;
Never gloating over my defeats,
Allow me to serve others as You serve,
With gentleness, compassion, and tenderness.
Amen

Here are a few ideas for how you can serve others; you can do some by yourself or with others. This list is just a starting point to help you come up with your own ideas...

- Wake up early and make school lunches for your family members.
- Write letters to your grandparents, great-aunts and great-uncles.
- Clean out your wardrobe, and donate clothes you no longer use.
- Write someone in your family a secret "thank you" or "I love you" note.
- Let others watch the television programs they prefer—for an entire week.
- Tell your parents you love them and how much you appreciate them.
- Play some music your parents like on the radio or stereo.
- Polish everyone's shoes.
- Make yours and your siblings' beds.
- Keep your room clean—a great service to your parents.
- Teach a younger child how to play a game.
- Look after the family pet. E.g. walk the dog, clean out the guinea pig.
- Do a litter pick.
- Write a thank-you card to someone who has given you service.
- Donate your unwanted toys to charity.
- Make a surprise visit to a member of your family.
- Organize your family photographs and put them into albums.
- Sit down with grandparents and share stories of your family history.
- Let someone go in front of you while you're waiting in a checkout line or in traffic.

**Only a life
lived in the
service to
others is
worth living.**
(Albert Einstein)
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Family Values activity:

Attached to your Family Values sheet this month is a service card. Find 10 ways to give service to someone else then ask a grown up to complete the signature boxes. Once your card is full bring it into school to show everyone how dedicated you have been!

All returned cards will earn 10 House Points and be entered into a prize draw.

**THE BEST WAY TO
FIND YOURSELF
IS TO LOSE YOURSELF
IN THE SERVICE
OF OTHERS.**
Mahatma Gandhi
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