

Respond to the call to serve: *Put it into action, in your congregation*

LESSON AT A GLANCE

Facilitator Notes:

- Sunday Sermon Reflections, Point to Ponder and Call to Action should still be shared at the beginning of the lesson.
- Since the format of this lesson is less structured, facilitators can incorporate a light meal or snack into the evening such as pizza or popcorn. Be sure to include this in your Message to Parents so they are aware and can contribute.

This lesson is designed to brainstorm and plan ways for the students to Respond to the call to serve Christ specifically in the context of their congregation. Listed below are suggested ways for the students to serve Christ by serving their congregation.

The group, or facilitator, can decide whether the entire group decide on a specific way to serve their congregation, or if the group comes up with a bank of ideas and the students decide individually which serving method they would like to do for their own congregation.

The following are a list of starter ideas to use when brainstorming ways for the students to respond to the call to serve Christ by serving their congregation. The students are encouraged to add to, and/or elaborate on, these ideas.

- Make visits during the week to those in the congregation
- Help seniors with technology
- Interview seniors in the congregation. Ask them about experience of faith and feeling God's love
- Organize an activity for the Sunday School
- Do an appreciation activity (cards, ice cream, flowers, dinner, etc.) for a specific group of the congregation (choir, teachers, seniors, parents, etc.)
- Have the youth be the ones to clean the church for a season
- Provide refreshments after service
- Ask the rector or shared leadership team where there may be a specific need in the congregation for the youth to help with
- Be greeters
- Start a prayer list or group

Have students work together to complete the questions on the student lesson copy. If time allows, come back together and let students share their responses.

MESSAGE TO PARENTS (TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL OR TEXT)

Facilitator Notes:

- Please keep the main message intact, but feel free to add local information as necessary.

Dear Parents,
 This semester we are focusing on the "R" lessons of the THRIVE curriculum, "Respond to the call to serve". It's our hope that this semester your student deepens their understanding of what it means to serve Christ by serving our family, our congregation, and community. This week, we brainstormed ideas of how to serve Christ, specifically in our congregation.

As always, if you have questions about the topic, please feel free to contact us.
 Your Youth Leaders

SUNDAY SERMON REFLECTIONS (10 minutes)

Facilitator Notes:

- Allow 2-3 students to share their reflections. For larger groups, vary who shares from week to week.

- What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?
- What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?
- So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?
- Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME? (15 minutes)

Facilitator Notes:

Wrap up the lesson with the "R" message from THRIVE: Respond to the call to serve by:

- Discovering and developing your spiritual gifts and engaging in the congregation by using those gifts. (Ephesians 4:11-16)
- Edifying the Body of Christ by acknowledging and appreciating the gifts of others. (1 Corinthians 12:4-27)
- Showing your love for Jesus through helping your family, congregation, community, and those in need. (Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:35-40, Mark 9:35)
- Directly serving Jesus Christ (Romans 14:17-19)

A Point to Ponder....

- What would happen if everyone in the congregation decided to just stop serving and contributing to the congregation?

A Call to Action...

- This week, serve Christ by serving your congregation.

Weekly Reflections

What Bible verse was used for the basis of last Sunday's sermon?

What were some of the main takeaways? What did you learn?

So far this week, how have you applied what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

Going forward, how will you apply what you learned from the sermon last Sunday?

Point to Ponder...

Call to Action...

Respond to the call to serve: *Put it into action, in your congregation*

What are some ways you could serve Christ by serving your congregation?

What is needed in order to implement some of these serving ideas?

If the serving idea is something that would only happen once, how could you turn it into a way of serving that gets repeated?

Why is it important to serve Christ by serving your congregation?

A Point to Ponder....

- What would happen if everyone in the congregation decided to just stop serving and contributing to the congregation?

A Call to Action...

- This week, serve Christ by serving your congregation.