

LESSON 3 • Share/Serve



Share/Serve

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Share with those in need as God's stewards.

Acts 20:35

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

1 Key Concepts

- Share/Serve as God's Stewards.
- Teach the children the love of Christ and how that motivates us to share.

2 Teacher Preparation

- Be ready to read the story of the Macedonian Christians. **2 Corinthians 8:1-5**
- Be ready to write down ideas for service projects.

3 Lesson

- Read the story of the Macedonian Christians.
- Talk about what the Macedonians were experiencing.
 - They were in a severe test of affliction.
 - They were poor.
 - Yet they were joyful because of the grace of God in Christ.
- They responded to the needs of others.
 - They gave of their own free will.
 - They gave beyond their means.
 - They gave generously.
- In **verse 5 of 2 Corinthians 8** it says, "(they gave) not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us."
 - They gave themselves first to Jesus because He gave Himself first to them.
- Jesus is the perfect example for us. We love because He first loved us.
 - Take care of those around us.
 - Help those in need.
 - Do whatever we can to take care of others. It is really simple.

Continued (over)

Share/Serve

Lesson (continued)

- God has given us all abilities to help people. We steward those abilities for Him.
- He also has given us all sorts of resources to help others. We steward those resources for Him.
 - We can help with our money, time and talents.
 - If we don't have a lot of time we should help by giving and make time to help others.
- In **Acts 20:35** Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
- God gave the biggest gift ever: The gift of His son.
 - We give because He first gave to us.
 - We can help those who need it as God would have us help them.
 - Love your neighbor.

4 Conclusion

Be a faithful steward. Be a giver. Love your neighbor as Jesus loves you and help those people who need it. God has given all of us so much. Share with those who don't have as much. Help those who are really in need.

5 Echo Prayer

Dear Lord,

Thank you for giving us the example of the Macedonians. Help us to give to others since you have given so much to us. Thank you for all of our gifts especially the gift of Jesus as our Savior. Please use us to be your stewards and helpers in this world. Amen.

Resources

- **Bible**
- **Luther's Small Catechism p.73**
- **Webster's Dictionary**
- **<http://tmcyouth.com/media/library/the-good-samaritan-rescue-from-the-bad-banditoes>**
This is a video from a youth group on their take on the story of the Good Samaritan.

6 Vocabulary

Neighbor: one who lives near another, a fellow man

7 Activity

Think of a service project you can do as a class