

ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION GUIDE

CHARACTER TRAIT:
SERVICE

DEFINITION:

Seeing a need and meeting it out of a heart for God

MEMORY VERSE:

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many.” **Mark 10:45**

FINISH LINE:

See a need, meet the need

READ: LUKE 10:30-37; 1 PETER 4:8-11

WHAT DOES IT SAY?
(OBSERVATION)

1. What happened to the Jewish man traveling to Jericho? *(He got beat up and robbed.)* What was his need? *(He needed water, food, clothes, medicine, and someone to care for him.)*
2. Who was the first person to walk by? *(A priest)* Who was the second? *(A Temple assistant)*
3. Did either of them SEE the need? *(Yes.)* Did they MEET the need? *(No.)*
4. Who was the third person to come by and why was he different? *(A Samaritan man. Normally, Samaritans and Jews did not get along.)*
5. Did he SEE the man’s need? *(Yes!)* What did he do to MEET it? *(He bandaged his wounds, took him to an inn, cared for him, and paid the innkeeper to take care of him, too.)*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
(INTERPRETATION)

1. If you were to ask the first two men why they did not stop to help, what do you think they might have said? *(They might have said they were busy and had someplace to be. Maybe they were worried that serving him could make them late, cost them money, or that they could be attacked by the same robbers.)*
2. Look at our memory verse, Mark 10:45. How did the Samaritan choose to serve others instead of serving himself? *(When he saw the man’s needs, he used what he had and set aside his own plans in order to help him.)*
3. Based on this story, who do you think Jesus want us to serve? *(We can serve anyone who crosses our path.)*

WHY DOES IT MATTER?
(APPLICATION)

1. What are some of the needs of people that you know? *(Think of physical needs like food or clothes, emotional needs like wanting a friend, or spiritual needs like hearing the Gospel.)*
2. In what ways can you use the gifts God has given you to serve those people in your life? *(Explain that serving does not always mean physical work, but can be listening, encouraging, or just showing love and spending time with someone.)*