

Sunday between October 16 and 22 – year B

Preparation

Read the Gospel [Mark 10:35-45](#) over. Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearb/properb24.htm>

http://archive.episcopalchurch.org/lessonPlans/109452_115932_ENG_HTM.htm

<http://www.mssscrafts.com/newtestament/greatest.htm>

<http://children.cccm.com/NTSupportCurriculumPDF/242WholsTheGreatest.pdf>

<http://children.cccm.com/OTSupportCurriculumPDF/140LordSpeaks.pdf>

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/pen19kles.htm>

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/b/29-b/K-29-b.html>

<http://www.sermons4kids.com/to-be-like-jesus.html>

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Green cloth
- Newsprint and markers
- Small votive candles

Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you. Gather around the small table or at the end of one table. With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the candle and the Bible on the cloth. Light the candle. Then have each child place a small votive candle by the large candle. As you light their candles say, *We are so happy that (name of child) is with us today.* Pray the following prayer together:

For a time to learn and grow, thank you God.

For friends to share and love, thank you Jesus.

For the time to pray and listen, thank you Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blow out the candles. Put up a piece of newsprint and ask the children to name all the jobs/chores that get done around their homes. (*Some of them might be feed the pets, doing the dishes, taking out the garbage or cooking the meals.*)

After they have named them all ask the children who does the different jobs/chores. Using a different coloured marker write down the names of the people who do the jobs/chores. Take a note of the ones that the children do in particular. Ask the children how they feel about doing their jobs/chores around the house. Wait for their responses. Explain to the children that in today's story they will hear about what Jesus expects of those of us who care for others.

Story Time

Materials needed

- Question mark poster made with previous lesson
- Servant image at end of lesson
- Scissors, glue stick

Instructions

Copy the servant image from the end of the lesson and cut it out. Set it with the glue stick near the poster. Place the question mark poster where the children can see it through the lesson.

Jesus and his friends were continuing on their journey. They were making their way to Jericho. On the way two of Jesus' friends, James and John – the two sons of Zebedee the fisherman – came up to him with a question. They asked him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us what we ask you."

"What do you want?" asked Jesus in return.

The brothers told him, "We want you to let us sit on your right hand and on your left hand when God's kingdom comes."

Jesus was shocked by this and said, "You really don't know what you are asking of me. Can you drink the cup that I will drink? Can you be baptized with the baptism that I will have?"

The brothers, James and John looked at each other and answered, "Yes we can!"

Then Jesus said to them, "Then you will drink the cup I drink and be baptized with the baptism that I will have. I can't decide who will sit on my right hand or on my left hand. That is not a decision that I am able to make. That will be up to God."

Now when Jesus' other friends heard about what James and John had asked Jesus they became annoyed with them. Jesus knew that he had to do something. He called all of his friends together. Jesus told them, "What is it like for the people to have rulers over them? The rulers tell them everything that they are supposed to do. Now how do you think you should be treating each other? Whoever wants to be the greatest among you must be the servant of everyone. Remember I did not come to the world to be served but to be the servant of everyone and to give my life in order to set free the whole world and bring people nearer to God."

Jesus' friends knew that they were going to have to take some time to think about what Jesus had said. They all continued on their way to Jericho.

Question Mark Poster

Direct the children's attention to the question mark in the middle of the poster. Ask someone to remember why they put up a cross, the welcome sign, the jug & cup, the blessing and the kingdom images from the previous weeks. With the children think about all the questions that were asked in today's story –Can you drink Jesus' cup or be baptized like Jesus? –What is like between Jesus' friends? Ask them what the answers to the questions were -James and John said they could – to be a servant to all people. Show them the servant image. Have one of the children glue it into the sixth space. Explain that for the next few weeks they will be adding something to the poster to help them remember each week's story.

Response

Project Idea 1: Serve Others Poster

Service to others is a value that Christians share want to encourage in each other. With this response the children will be able to share their ideas of service with the church community.

Materials needed

- poster board
- magazines
- white paper
- markers
- glitter
- scissors, glue sticks

Instructions

Across the top of the poster board print “**Become servants of one another**”. Invite the children to look through the magazines for pictures of people serving others or if they are feeling creative to draw a picture of service. When they have collected or drawn their pictures have them glue them onto to the poster board. They may want to add service words such as – serve, least, other, love, kindness. If they want to draw around the pictures or words with a glue stick then shake some glitter over the glue. Choose a place with the children where other members of the church can see and learn from the poster.

Project Idea 2: Serving Hands Flower Pot

This will be a fun response especially for younger children and will help them to share the idea of servanthood with their families.

Materials needed

- construction paper
- markers
- scissors
- craft sticks or plastic straws
- tape
- floral foam or playdough
- small plastic containers (one per child)

Instructions

Give each child two or three pieces of construction paper. Have them trace their hands on to the construction paper. Help the younger ones to cut them out. They will need to have three to five hands each. With younger children help to print on the hands “**A hand to serve you**” and let the older ones print it themselves. Place a piece of floral foam or playdough into the bottom of the plastic container. Have the children tape a craft stick or plastic straw onto the back of the hand and then place their flower hands into the floral foam or playdough. If you have time you may want to cover the outside of the plastic container with construction paper and have the children decorate that as well. As the children are working on their flower pots talk with them about how they can be servants with their families and friends. Encourage the children to share their flower pots with their families and to ask their families to use one of the flower hands when they need some extra help with a chore around the house.

Project Idea 3: Pocket Servant Tokens

Each of us are called to be servants like Jesus was. This response will give the children a concrete reminder of that as they use their tokens in their daily lives.

Materials needed

- heavy cardboard (like from a box)
- scissors
- markers
- duct tape or masking tape

Instructions

Cut two circles that are 5 cm/ 2inches in diameter from the cardboard per child. Give each child two cut out circles. Explain that these are servant tokens – one to keep in their pocket and the other to give to a friend or family member to keep in their pockets. Every time they do a serving action (good deed) for someone or for the world they are to take their token and put it into their other pocket. With the children put masking or duct tape around the outside edge of the cardboard circle (this will help to protect it while in their pockets). Invite the children to print “**Servant Token**” on one side with the markers and to decorate the other side with a Christian symbol (such as a cross or heart) with the markers. As they working encourage them to think about who they are going to give the other token to and what kinds of actions they can do that will be of service to others and to the world.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candles. Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

**Loving God surround us with your care,
Friend Jesus be with us each day,
Holy Spirit move us to show your love,
Amen.**

Servant Image

