

Theme: Christian Commitments (CCom05) Service/Servanthood
Aim: To see that part of being a Christian is serving other people and looking out for them as Jesus did, and as the early church did.

All of us were made to be servants of God. We were all made uniquely, designed solely for the purposes that God thought up for us.

Activity:

Write down a list or draw a picture of people who help us. E.g. firefighters, police officers, doctors, nurses and you could include superheroes. Encourage younger children to dress up in outfits from the list of people who help us above.

Big Photo Challenge:

You will need a camera or photo/device with a built-in camera.

- .Take a photo of some water
- .Take a close up photo of some soap
- .Take a photo of somewhere that you can get clean
- .Take a photo of some dirty shoes
- .Take a photo of your towel
- .Take a close up photo of your feet

Today we are looking at serving and helping others. We hear about the story of Jesus doing one of the worst jobs washing dirty feet. Jesus' washes his disciples' feet and all of these things you've been taking pictures of- water, soap, dirty shoes, feet, towel are all included today's story.

Watch:

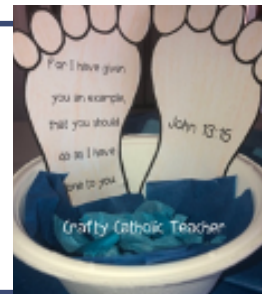
Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv5ajWNRnt4>

Story:

Grab a bible and read John 13:3-15 and hear about Jesus washing his disciples' feet. In Jesus' day, people wore things like flip flops, and they didn't have socks. So, when their shoes got dirty and so did their feet. When we have dirty feet, it makes everything else dirty! When they went to people's houses and ate together, they sat around on cushions on the floor, so their feet were near the food. So, they needed their feet washing, usually a servant would do this job. One day, Jesus and his disciples came inside, and they all had dirty feet. Usually, a slave would come and wash their feet - but today there wasn't anyone to do that for them. So, they looked at each other, wondering who was going to do that job. Washing people's feet isn't a nice job, it's a bit a smelly! Jesus washed their feet. He got up, picked up a bowl of water and a towel, and washed everyone's feet until they were clean. Then he said, "If you want to be my friends, you should help other people. Help in any way you can." Jesus wanted the disciples should look after each other - they should help each other Jesus asked us to look after other people, and not to only think about ourselves.

Craft option 1:

Draw around your feet or ask someone to help you draw around your feet. If using paint, we suggest only putting one foot in the paint at a time as it is difficult to walk with two painted feet. Colour in water around the feet on paper or cut up pieces of blue paper and stick in a bowl (see picture of example craft).



Craft option 2:

Use a generous amount of clay or salt dough (simple recipe below) and mould it into the shape of a person doing something positive. This can be anything; dancing, praying, holding a baby, reading, anything at all!

.Salt dough recipe:

.1 cup of fine salt

.1 cup of flour

.About half a cup of water

Mix the flour and the salt together in a large bowl. Depending on the flour brand, you may need a different amount of water, so it is best to make a well in the centre and pour in the water a bit at a time. You have to knead until smooth and elastic and non-sticky dough. Store the dough in an airtight box, rather than a polythene bag as it starts sweating. Models can be hardened over a week in an airing cupboard or cooked in the bottom of an oven on a low heat for 2 or 3 hours.

Questions:

.Why did Jesus wash the disciples' feet?

.What was he trying to teach them?

.How can we help each other people this week? It can be something that they do at home- you could serve your parents or carers by helping keep the house tidy, looking after a family member, tidying up, making a drink for someone. There are all sorts of ways God might ask you to serve and help.

Worship:

Sing along and do the actions to Building Brick (Action Video) on the STJworship YouTube Channel. Use this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mhs2wYXV-E> or play track one on Building Bricks CD to listen to the song. In chorus of the song Building Brick It says "I will love you; I will live for you; I will grow up up to be like you. I will love you; I will serve you Lord with everything I do."

Prayer:

Even though we may be far away from situations and people, we can still serve and help them by praying for them.

Look at photos, drawings, newspaper clippings, or online articles of any people, place or situation that they want to pray for. Bring some yourself. Why this person, place or situation is important? How could you begin to pray for and serve these different people? Begin to pray short prayers with your family about the pictures or online articles.

For more resources check out Urban Saints Energize website: <https://www.energize.uk.net/>

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